

WESTERN CANADA.

FREE HOMES FOR ALL

IN THE

GREAT PROVINCES

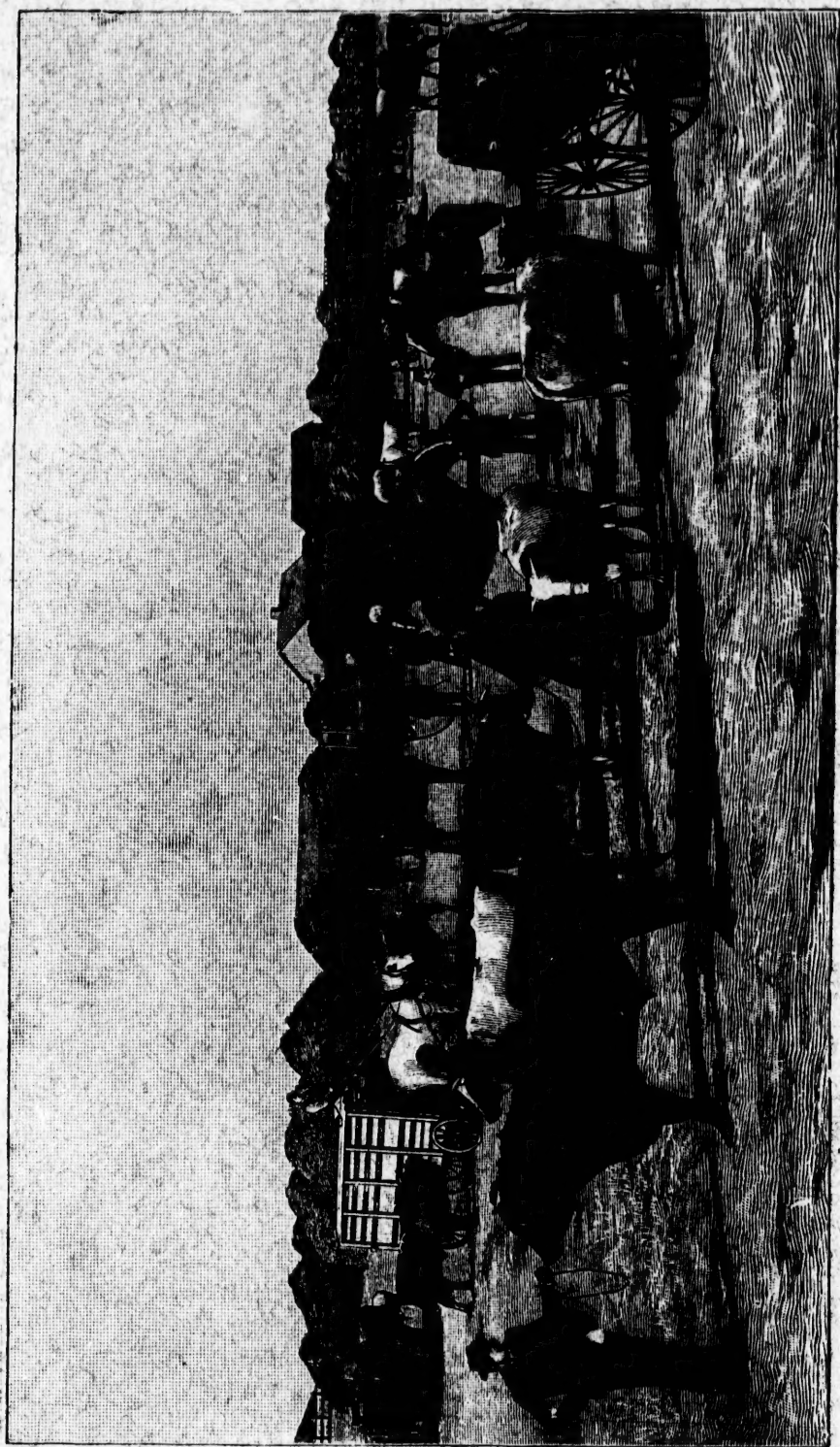
OF

MANITOBA, ASSINIBOIA, SASKATCHEWAN

AND

ALBERTA.

1892



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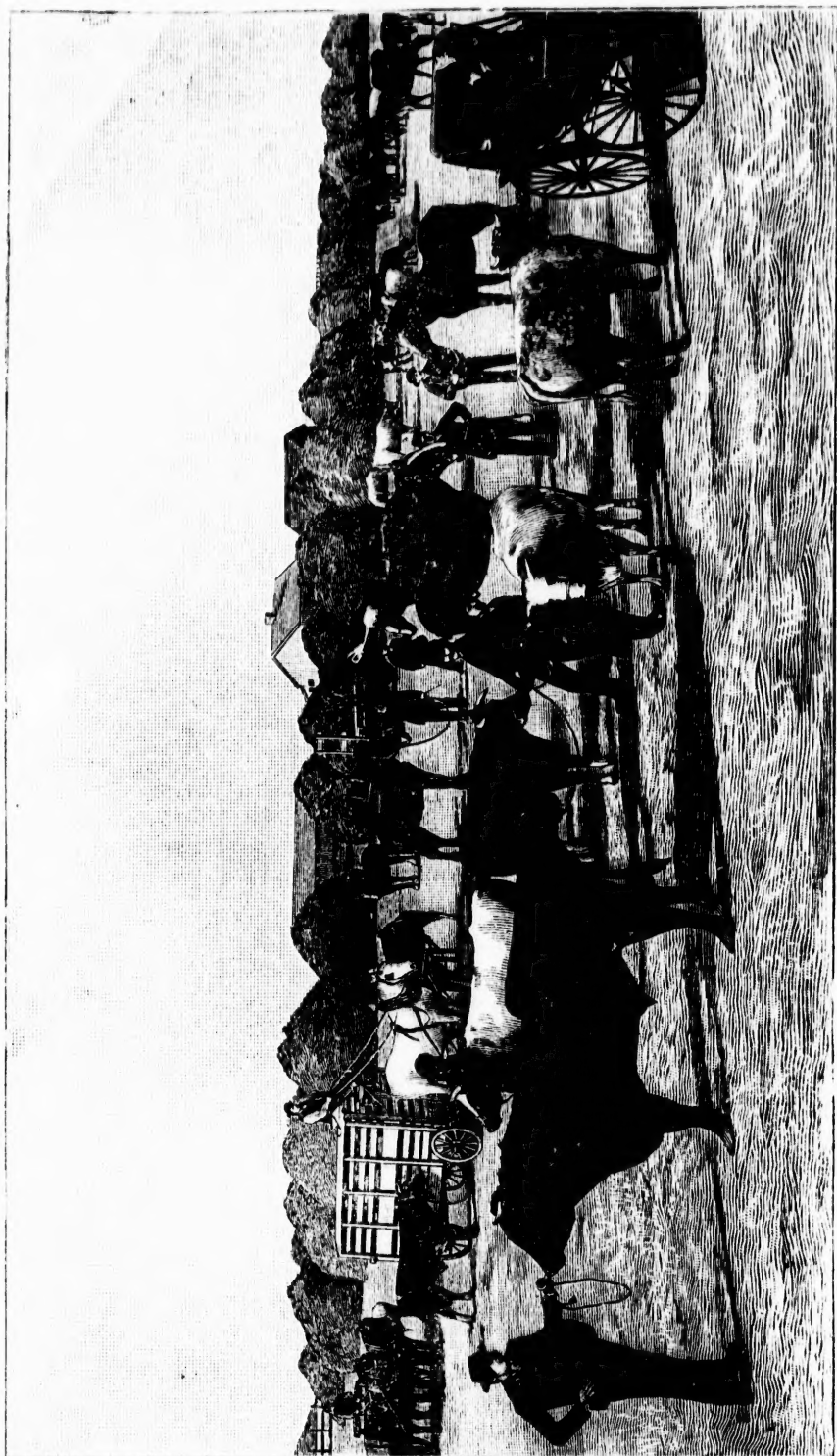
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WESTERN CANADA

AND ITS

GREAT RESOURCES.

LETTERS FROM SETTLERS, FARMERS' DELEGATES
AND HIGH AUTHORITIES.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, 1st March, 1892.

The object in publishing this pamphlet, is not so much to give a detailed description of Manitoba and the North-West, now known as "Western Canada," for that would be impossible in so short a space; but our desire is to lay before the American farmer as well as those in Eastern Canada and elsewhere, a few facts concerning this truly great country and its wonderful fertility as a grain and cereal producer, as well as its unparalleled adaptability as a stock raiser.

The extent of ground to be covered, the diversified resources, climate, soil, landscape and other interests to be served, preclude the possibility of giving anything approaching a complete sketch of the territory within a compass so limited. Neither is it intended to give the opinion of a single individual, but rather to bring out the testimony of as many as may be of the number of farmers from Minnesota, the Dakotas and other portions of the United States, who last year visited the country, many of whom are now happily and comfortably settled there.

Beyond a narrow strip along the Red River, in the vicinity of where the city of Winnipeg now stands, this great prairie region stretching for nearly 1,000 miles from east to west, from the border of the Red River valley on the east to the Rocky Mountains in the west, was practically a *terra incognita* up to 1870, when Manitoba and the North-West became a portion of the Dominion of Canada. This being done it now remained to open this great western country to settlement

by the construction of railways, and to this end the Government now bent all its energy. These efforts were crowned with success, and in 1879 the first railway tapped the fertile plains of western Canada. From that time onward settlement grew apace, and these great fertile plains have been rapidly transformed into fields of golden grain, producing the famous "Manitoba No. 1 hard" wheat, while cities, towns and villages have sprung into existence by the score, and connected by diverse railway lines, bidding for the traffic and trade of the farmer. An idea of the progress made in the last ten years may be gathered from the following figures, relating to the prairie section only:—

	1881.	1891.
Population.....	40,000	260,000
Grain crop in bushels.....	720,000	55,000,000
Railway mileage.....	150	4,000
Number of elevators.....	0	100
Elevator capacity.....	0	9,000,000
Number of post offices.....	153	600
Number of schools.....	85	720

These figures show but little of what has actually been accomplished in the past decade. Still, they serve as an index, though incomplete, as to what may and doubtless will be accomplished in the next few years when the country's capabilities are better understood and when remoter districts are traversed by the rapidly increasing number of railway lines.

Area and Topographical Features.

Western Canada on the whole includes an area of some 2,500,000 square miles, but the portion of this vast territory to be described in this publication is limited to the four great provinces. These provinces are: Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta, and Saskatchewan. These four provinces are wholly within the fertile prairie region, and contain an area of some 440,000 square miles, or about 280,000,000 acres. In contemplating the bewildering extent of this realm of prairie many have pictured it in their minds as a dreary, lonesome expanse of a dead sea level. Nothing can be more erroneous. The country, though termed prairie, is by no means a treeless plain, devoid of hills and other topographical features pleasing to the eye. The surface varies from a gently undulating to a high-rolling prairie and belts of hills several hundred feet in height and clad in forests of the evergreen spruce, pine, oak, elm, birch and poplar, while bluffs of timber dot the

undulating surface of the plains. Rivers and creeks abound, varying in size from the Great Saskatchewan River to the tiny brooklet rippling down a hillside and then slowly feeling its way through valleys to its junction with some greater stream. Lakes are plentiful, and vary in size from Lake Winnipeg (second in size only to Lake Superior) to the lakelet of a few acres in extent. Such, condensed into few short sentences, are the topographical features of the prairie region of western Canada.

The Future Possibilities

of this great prairie region are far beyond the grasp of even the greatest mind. The work accomplished in the past eleven years, the beginning years, counting from the advent of railways, is truly great. The increase in number of bushels of grain raised from 720,000 to 55,000,000, or over; the increase in number of head of cattle from some 50,000 to over 600,000; the construction of nearly 4,000 miles of railway; the building up of towns and cities of from 2,000 to 30,000 inhabitants, — all this is a record of eleven years, and yet this record can scarcely be taken as a standard by which to judge the future, as everything cannot be undertaken at once by a comparatively small pioneer population. Thus the principal work so far has been devoted to agriculture and stock-raising, these being, and always will be, the chief industries. The development of other resources has not yet been undertaken to any great extent, with the exception of lumbering and coal mining. But it is to be borne in mind that, while the prairie country is by nature evidently intended as a storehouse for breadstuffs, it has other and almost limitless resources as well. Timber is plentiful, and at the present time some 80,000,000 feet of it are yearly converted into lumber. Excellent building stone is found in many places and limestone quarries can be had in almost every district, yielding lime of first class quality. Gold, silver and iron, nickel and copper are in the highlands bordering the Red River valley on the east; iron of excellent quality and in immense quantity is also found on islands in Lake Winnipeg. Mica, amber and other valuable minerals are found in the Lake Winnipeg district further north. Extensive salt-springs yielding first class salt are found between Lake Winnipeg and Lake Manitoba. Coal oil springs are in the Lake Dauphin district, and out near the Rocky Mountains, west of Fort Macleod, and north of Edmonton again, the coal oil fields are by experts stated to be inexhaustible. Coal underlies a large territory

in South Western Manitoba, the beds extending westward far beyond the boundary of the province, and the coal fields at Dunmore, Medicine Hat and Edmonton are illimitable, while the anthracite coal fields in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains on the Canadian Pacific main line, and on the Red Deer River further north, are extensive enough to supply the continent for hundreds of years to come, and producing coal the quality of which is fully equal to the best of Pennsylvania's product in the black diamond line, proved to be so after several severe tests. This incomplete enumeration of some of the chief resources of the country proves its capability to stand alone, independent for the most part of the outside world, once these resources are developed as they soon will be developed. Not only are all the materials here in abundance for producing all the principal food products for man and beast, but also the material for producing most of the chief implements and manufactured wares, and in extent too great for measuring their quantity aright as yet.

The soil for the most part is the most fertile in the world, equalled only by the famous Nile Delta in Egypt. The subsoil principally is a rich, sticky clay, which gradually, after being worked up to the surface, changes into hardly less fertile soil than the black mould itself. On the ridges and the higher plateaus the subsoil is mixed with sand and gravel and some places shell, while the black mould is in most places as deep on the ridges as it is on the lower levels.

The Climate

is cold temperate. The summers are warm and the winters cold. The average heat of summer is about the same as that in New York State, but never the scorching heat characterizing Kansas and other western States, dealing disaster to the crops. The winter is cold, but owing to the dryness of the atmosphere, and almost continually cloudless sky and sunshine, the cold is not felt as much as in the humid atmosphere along the Atlantic coast. Fall of snow in winter is light, while fall of rain in summer is plentiful for moistening the soil and assuring a good crop of cereals and grass. Sunshine, however, predominates all the year round, and meteorological reports prove that of all places in Canada Winnipeg has the greatest number of hours of sunshine in the year, and what applies to Winnipeg in this respect applies equally to all parts of the prairie region. The above description, however, as regards cold in winter, does not apply equally to all parts of the territory described, as in the Province of

Alberta and the western border of the prairie region the winters are milder than Manitoba, Assiniboia and eastern Saskatchewan, being under the direct influence of the Japan current and Chinook winds wafted across the Rockies from the Pacific. The climate and country is the most healthful on the continent, no other district being able to show a death rate as low as Manitoba, according to carefully compiled Government records. Malarial fevers are unknown, and no disease whatever, peculiar to the climate of the country, exists, and many cases might be cited where residents of malarial districts have sought and found both health and wealth on the prairies of western Canada.

The Truth.

It is only within the last few years that the truth concerning this great country has become generally known, if indeed it can even now be said to be known; but this much, at least, is an established fact, that nowhere else in the world to-day is there such a quantity of rich arable land open for settlement, so blessed by nature with all the capabilities of marvellous richness and wonderful productiveness, as is found here in western Canada. That this fact is taking hold upon the people, the large influx of farmers from eastern Canada, the old country and the United States during the past year, and the rapid increase in population, as compared with the western States, is abundant proof; and it is with reference to the latter that we wish particularly to deal in this pamphlet, viz.: the large influx of settlers from the western States during the past year, and their testimony regarding the country.

We will therefore leave a fuller description of the country in all its varied resources to other publications, such as the publications of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Manitoba and North-West Railway Company, the Manitoba and North-West Territories Government, and we will let those speak whose opinions will without doubt have weight wherever they are read.

Emigration from the Western States.

During the past two or three years the Dominion Government, the Manitoba Government and the railway land companies interested in the settlement of this country have been receiving large numbers of letters from settlers in North and South Dakota, Minnesota and other western States, asking for particulars and information about this country, and stating that owing to repeated failures of crops they were

compelled to move, and go where they could better their circumstances. These letters were promptly replied to, and the necessary information, so far as it could be supplied by letters and pamphlets, given. So numerous were these letters during the past fall and winter, and so anxious were they that we should do something to assist them, that a number of gentlemen here decided to send over some good reliable man to talk with the farmers and ascertain what was the real position, and see what could be done for them. Acting upon this decision several men were sent over last April, and as a result of their visit not less than 2,000 souls have left there, and have come and settled in this country. On the first of May last a whole train load of settlers from South Dakota arrived in Winnipeg, bringing their stock, implements and effects along with them, all ready to start farming. Since the arrival of this party other parties have been continually coming, until, as has been already stated, we have received over 2,000 souls. And they are still coming, not only from Dakota, but from Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, and also Michigan, and are rapidly filling up our richest and best lands in the different sections of the country.

The Arrival of Farmers' Delegates.

While this was being done the Dakota papers, with the object of preventing these people leaving the country, published a great many reckless and foundationless reports about this country, saying that it was "a land of snow and ice," that "the prairies are a sterile sandy waste, where vegetable growth is impossible," and that the parties sent over from here "could not be relied upon." To counteract these statements, we invited the farmers of Dakota to appoint a number of delegates to come over and visit Manitoba and the Canadian North-West, and report to them as to what they saw and what the country is like. They came, about forty-five in all, representing different sections of both North and South Dakota, and some from Minnesota. They went where they pleased. They were furnished free land guides, and every possible facility was given them to see the country well. They travelled some twenty-five hundred miles by rail from Winnipeg to Calgary and back, Calgary to Red Deer and back, Regina to Prince Albert and back, and from Winnipeg to Yorkton and back, besides stopping off at the different points along the way to drive around the country, and talk with the farmers. They spent from three to five weeks in the country, and each party made a report of their visit and their opinions of the country, and signed it. These

reports are now printed in this pamphlet. The language could not be plainer. They have been one and all delighted with the country, and strongly advise all their friends to come here, as already many of them have done—a large number of them having selected their lands and made their homestead entry before returning home.

In addition to this, a number of other delegations from different parts of the United States visited the country during the past season, and their reports all go to corroborate those of the former delegates.

These reports, together with the reports of individual delegates, are all published in this pamphlet, for the information of those who desire to find a new home where they can better their circumstances, and get more land for their sons as well as themselves. We also publish herewith letters from a number of those who left their homes in the States and settled here last season, and one and all testify to the truth of the information they received regarding the country and their entire satisfaction with their new homes.

Here then is what they say :

The following is the report of the party of Farmers' Delegates from South Dakota, who visited the Canadian North-West in company with Mr. W. A. Webster, during May and June, 1891:—

We, the undersigned farmers of South Dakota, owing to the repeated (and almost total) failure of crops, had made up our minds that we must emigrate somewhere, and after hearing the description of the agricultural resources of Manitoba and the Canadian North-West by W. A. Webster, Dominion Emigration Agent, and A. F. Holmes, Colonization Agent, decided to visit and personally inspect these resources, not only in our own interests, but also in the interests of *very many* of our neighbours. Accompanied by Agent Webster we left Aberdeen, South Dakota, May 14, reached Winnipeg May 15, spent a day examining that fine substantial city of 28,000 inhabitants. We visited Brandon, which is the centre of a grand wheat growing region. Visited the Government Experimental Farm, saw here samples of grain, grasses, trees, shrubs, and saw their system of farming, which seems to be most complete. We visited the well-known farm of William Sandison, who raised last year 60,000 bushels of grain; his wheat averaged 30, and oats 90 bushels per acre! His teams and outfit being the best we ever saw. After driving over this district and meeting some old friends who have made wealth farming here, we went west to Moosomin, drove over this district, which is a splendid section for

mixed farming. Visited the farms of J. R. Neff and Thos. Boubier, who have been farming here for the past nine years, growing 25 to 30 bushels of wheat per acre, oats 60 bushels and potatoes 300 bushels. From here we went west to Moose Jaw; drove over this district; splendid soil, good grass, stock living out all the year. Visited several fine farms and prosperous farmers in this district. From here we went to Calgary, a fine town of 4,000 inhabitants; many costly buildings of freestone, quarried on the spot. From here we had a grand view of the Rocky Mountains, 75 miles distant! Going north from here to the famous Red Deer district, we examined it thoroughly; it is a grand stock country, probably no better known, plenty of timber, water, hay and good soil, easily tilled; we found very many North Dakota farmers settling in this district. There is plenty of Free Homestead land here. Returning east we stopped off at Regina, the capital of the Territories. We examined this district thoroughly; no richer soil than here. North and south of here are fine stock sections, stock living out almost the entire year; we hear nothing of hard times here. From here we went north 250 miles, over a first-class railroad to Prince Albert, in the Saskatchewan valley; we examined this district very carefully; we find here plenty of timber for all purposes; water in abundance—rivers, lakes, and well water of first quality at depths of 10 to 15 feet. Rich, mellow soil, producing a luxuriant growth of grasses of the most nutritious kinds—in short, a first-class country for mixed farming, having now good railway facilities, and where good prices are had for stock and all kinds of farm products. There is plenty of Free Homestead land here.

Returning east to Portage la Prairie, we drove over that renowned district, and saw evidences of agricultural wealth that completely astonished us, it having all been accumulated within the past few years.

From here we took the railway to Yorkton, passing all the way through a first-class farming country, with evidences of prosperous farmers all along this road to Yorkton, which is its present terminus. From here we drove 45 miles along the proposed line of road to the *South Dakota Colony* (which now consists of 200 souls), the members of which settled here during the last few months. We visited all of them, most of them being old acquaintances, we found them all busy building houses and breaking land. We examined the country in which this colony is located as carefully as possible for the time at our disposal, and we find a first-class soil, plenty of small, beautiful lakes, pure water, plenty of timber for building, fencing, and fuel for all time

to come; hay in abundance. We saw here three-year-old steers fit for the English market that never *saw* the *inside* of a stable.

In the interests of our friends and neighbours in South Dakota, we desire that this, our report, be printed and circulated in the Dakotas, and we say most emphatically that the statements made by Agents Holmes and Webster, to us, in regard to the agricultural resources of Manitoba and the Canadian North-West, *are true in every particular*, as we found everything better than they represented them to us, and we wish here to tell the farmers of South Dakota that they can place confidence in their statements.

Signed at Winnipeg, 10th June, 1891.

O. W. PASHOLKE, Glasston, Pembina County, North Dakota.

FRANCIS B. MEGARRY, Leola, South Dakota.

JAMES CAMERON, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

F. J. RANDALL, Conway, North Dakota.

WILLIAM HILL, Leola, South Dakota.

NEIL McLEAN, Roscoe, South Dakota.

The following is the report of the party of North Dakota Farmers' Delegates who spent a month visiting Manitoba and the North-West with a view to reporting to their friends in Dakota the facts regarding this country:—

WINNIPEG, 18th June, 1891.

We, the undersigned delegates from North Dakota, wish to make the following report for the benefit of intending settlers. We have visited the country north and west of Yorkton for over 50 miles, and found a country which cannot be surpassed for mixed farming. There are numberless good meadows, and it would be hard to find a section without a nice poplar grove in it. There are also many streams of fresh water, and the soil is excellent in every particular. We spent several days at Prince Albert, Duck Lake, and in the Shell River country. The general appearance of the country around Prince Albert is particularly desirable on account of its groves of tamarac, spruce and poplar timbers. The valley of the Shell River is a very beautiful country extending for a long distance east of the Thickwood Hills; the prairie is composed of a dark loam with heavy clay subsoil, with numerous lakes and springs. There are millions of acres of this land unoccupied in the valley of the Saskatchewan. The country in many places resembles parts of Great Britain. We also visited the country north of Calgary for more than 100 miles; the Poplar Grove and Red Deer country is a

very desirable point for any one who desires to emigrate from Dakota. There is abundance of wood and water, and lumber can be got for \$18.50 per M. One of our party has already located about 8 miles from Red Deer.

We have seen several herds of cattle that never were fed any hay or had shelter during the winter; in fact, it is the country for a great many people who are getting poorer every year in Dakota.

We also desire to state that on our visit to Brandon we had the pleasure of visiting the Government Experimental Farm established at that point, and we were glad to find what a great work the Government was doing here for the benefit of the farmers of the North-West. Mr. Bedford, the manager, is a fine man and takes great pains in explaining everything to those who visit the farm. Experiments of all kinds are carried on at the farm, and farmers can always get the best and most reliable information as to what is best to grow and how to prepare it.

In conclusion, we have no hesitation in advising all our friends in Dakota, and any others who wish to better their condition, to come to the Canadian North-West.

Mr. D. D. Smith, of Park River, and Mr. A. Johnson and H. Chaley, of Edinburgh, also accompanied us on our whole trip of inspection, with the exception of Yorkton district, and will corroborate this statement,

INKERMAN DAVIS, Park River, North Dakota.

JAMES BELL, Latona, North Dakota.

ABRAHAM SMITH, Inkster, North Dakota.

BENJAMIN CODE, Park River, North Dakota.

WM. CODE, Park River, North Dakota.

E. CODE, Park River, North Dakota.

The following is the report of the party of Farmers' Delegates from North Dakota, who have been on a tour of inspection of Manitoba and the North-West in company with Captain Bliss:—

WINNIPEG, 8th June, 1891.

We, the undersigned farmers from the counties of Griggs, Foster and Steele, in the State of North Dakota, United States, beg to ask the privilege of thus laying before our brother farmers in our district in North Dakota this report of our tour of inspection of land in the Canadian North-West.

We arrived in Winnipeg on the 15th May, and started west next morning. We took the Canadian Pacific Railway at Winnipeg, and passing through very fertile lands at Portage la Prairie, Brandon and other points on that line, we came to Calgary, our first stop. We found Calgary a wonderful town for its age, being lighted by electricity and having good water works, fire and police brigades, and first-class hotels. A large barracks of the Mounted Police is also at this point.

From Calgary we proceeded north on the Calgary and Edmonton Railway to Red Deer. About 30 miles north of Calgary we got into first-class land, well wooded and watered. At Red Deer we found good land, but rather too much wood. Through the kindness of Land Agent Jessop we got full information as to land open for settlement, and proceeded to Poplar Grove, 20 miles south of Red Deer. Here we spent three days and thoroughly inspected the land. We found the soil very good, a rich loam, and easily worked, plenty of wood and water, and from conversation with some settlers we believe this to be as good a locality as a farmer could wish.

After a careful inspection of Poplar Grove, we took the train again and proceeded to Calgary on the way to Prince Albert. Passing through Regina, the capital of the North-West Territories, a town of western enterprise and the headquarters of the Mounted Police force of the North-West, we came by the Regina and Long Lake Railway to Prince Albert. We arrived in Prince Albert and found a town of 900 or 1,100 inhabitants, beautifully situated on the Saskatchewan River, in a fertile valley. We went out south-east some 40 miles, and on the route passed through the finest country we had yet seen. The Birch Hill district was closely inspected, and resulted in showing us a land of wood, water and soil yet to be surpassed. Well water can be had in this section at from 5 to 12 feet, good and clear. Hay is extremely plentiful, being seen in many places over 3 feet high. Timothy seed will grow here, and brings forth a good crop. We find we cannot express ourselves too highly regarding this district, and consider it first-class in all respects for "mixed" farming. There is plenty of land here ready for homesteading.

We then proceeded to Yorkton, on the Manitoba and North-West Railway. We arrived in Yorkton, and proceeded by teams, to view the land north and west. We saw and conversed with several old settlers from South Dakota. They are *all well satisfied*, and would not change

their location. We went as far as Quill Lake, and found the land and country generally good for mixed farming. The crops look well, grass good and plenty.

WM. HOWDEN, Cooperstown, Griggs Co., North Dakota.			
ELLEF OLSON, Ottawa	do	do	
PETER B. HELLAND, Sharron	do	do	
GUDMUND GUDMUNDSE, Rommes, Griggs Co.	do		
JAS. PHALEN, Forrest River, Grand Forks Co.	do		
R. RUTLEDGE, ———, Palk Co.	do		
J. A. BOLE, ———, Foster Co.	do		

WINNIPEG, MAN., 1891.

We the undersigned, after having been three weeks examining the unoccupied farming lands in the vicinity of Yorkton, Prince Albert, Regina and other parts of the Canadian North-West, do hereby certify that the representations made to our people by Mr. Martin McDonald, immigration agent, as to quality of land and supplies of wood, water, &c., &c., have been more than verified to us by our personal examination. And we have no hesitancy in saying that the intending settler cannot find a more inviting country on the American continent to-day to establish a home than on the line of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway in the vicinity of Yorkton, or Prince Albert.

JOHN HENNESSY, Delegate from Nelson Co., North Dakota.

D. McDOUGALL do do do

RICHARD CARR do do do

Letter from Fort Saskatchewan.

DEAR SIR,—I arrived here on the 18th of April and found the spring well advanced and grain that was in early up and looking fine. Rented land from Robert McKernan; put in 25 acres of oats and 12 acres of barley and 1 acre of potatoes. The spring was dry and no rain till 10th June; then got plenty of rain, and threshed 716 sacks of oats; weighed some of the sacks and they weighed from 106 to 110 lbs. I had 600 bushels of barley and 500 bushels of potatoes. I consider that I had a good crop all round. I have been threshing all fall, and have seen some better and some not so good.

James Port, on south 28, township 153, range 22, had 12 acres of wheat that went 55½ bushels per acre; that is the best I know of. I feel

sure that we can raise as good wheat as any place in America. As for oats and barley, we are away ahead. Potatoes, cabbage, turnips, onions, beans, pease and rhubarb are beyond description; no man would believe it till he sees it. I have seen some fine fields of timothy. Have seen the fattest cattle here I ever saw. Sheep do well, and there is lots of money in hogs, as we can grow barley and not half try, and there is a good market north for more pork than will ever be raised here. The growth of grass is something wonderful; on the high land it was three feet high, mixed with pea vine; better pasture a man could not ask for.

Any person wishing for more particulars can write me at Fort Saskatchewan; I will answer all questions, as far as my experience will carry me.

I remain, yours truly,

JOHN McLELLAN.

FORT SASKATCHEWAN, Dec. 7, 1891.

PRINCE ALBERT vs. SOUTH DAKOTA.

DEAR SIR,—In return for your kindness in assisting us to get here, I drop you this letter to let you know how we are getting on since we left Brown county, South Dakota. On our way up we stopped two days at Regina, and the crops there were something enormous. The Brown Bros.' wheat went 58 bushels, Collins 52, and a German neighbour's went 56 bushels per acre! oats 25 bushels. Roots and vegetables were astonishing! Here at Prince Albert crops are splendid: wheat 30, oats 60 bushels per acre, and not a particle of frost. I have cut and stacked a grand lot of hay since I came. We are having a great deal of rain lately; ground is now ploughing in fineshape. My nearest neighbour has just dug one acre of potatoes—yield, 400 bushels. J. Dalin, his family and car of stock have arrived all safe. They like this country very much. I have rented a fine farm five miles from town for one year; will then go on my own claim. Since coming here I have been around a good deal, and every farmer I meet is in love with this country. Cattle here are rolling fat, and bring good prices. The railroad from here to Yorkton will be finished next summer. I expect then to see a great rush of South Dakota farmers to this country, for I tell you it possesses wonderful advantages over South Dakota. Beautiful rivers and lakes, first-class timber, lots of hay and grass and good rich soil. It is surprising the

number of South Dakota farmers that have settled here this fall from Brown, Edmunds and Faulk counties, and they are all writing back for their friends to come here and share the advantages of this country with them. I forgot to tell you that the weather is delightful; threshing going on in every direction-- thirty bushels to the acre--No. 1 hard.

I am, yours truly,

JAMES CAMERON.

PRINCE ALBERT, Oct. 25, 1891.

Mr. John Klein, of Warner, Talks.

SIR.--Having been appointed by a large number of my neighbours to visit the Canadian North-West and to examine its agricultural resources and report on my return, I will say on the outset that we have been farming here in South Dakota for nine years and between the repeated and almost total failure of crops, coupled with excessive taxes and high rates of interest, and low prices of farm produce, we find it impossible to support our families here. Accordingly I left Aberdeen, 10th October, arrived next day in Winnipeg, a fine city of 28,000 inhabitants, full of life and business.

From here I was met by Mr. Campbell, General Immigration Agent. From Winnipeg west I passed through Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Griswold, Virden, Moosomin, and such crops of wheat as I passed my eyes never saw before. Farmers were busy threshing out 30 bushels of wheat per acre, grading No. 1 hard, and selling at 80 cents per bushel. All other grain crops were in proportion. As for roots and vegetables, they are simply wonderful! In due time I reached Prince Albert, a fine town on the Saskatchewan River, with a population of 1,100. Here everything seemed prosperous. I found that a number of South Dakota people settled here this summer. After examining this district thoroughly I pronounce it a first-class country for mixed farming, the soil being rich and plenty of timber, water, grass and hay, and where good prices are obtained for all kinds of farm produce. Cattle are easily grown and bring splendid prices as compared with South Dakota. And I tell my friends I am coming to Prince Albert to make my home. And I tell them further that they will make no mistake if they do likewise. I heard of no chattel mortgages, or two per cent a month here. On the contrary, farmers all seemed prosperous and contented, and all being in love with this country. Taxes are very low, and interest likewise: good schools, churches, etc. The people I met were all civil and obliging, and gave me all the assistance possible

to enable me to possess the information I was seeking. Small fruits grow in abundance, fish in the rivers, game in the bush. In conclusion, I tell my friends and neighbours that after a careful examination of the country, and for the above reasons, besides many others, that I and my family are going there to make our future home, and I tell all those in whose interest I examined that country that I found it better than the agents at Aberdeen described it to me, and that any man in South Dakota who is not satisfied with his success, cannot do better than settle in the Prince Albert district of the Canadian North-West.

I am, yours truly,

JOHN KLEIN, of Warner, South Dakota.

ABERDEEN, South Dakota, 22nd Oct., 1891.

ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA, 30th Nov., 1891.

DEAR SIR. We have recently returned from the Canadian North-West, where we spent a month in examining the agricultural resources of that country. We found Winnipeg a splendid city, full of life and business. From here we went west to Prince Albert, 600 miles. This town is situated on the Saskatchewan river and contains 1,100 inhabitants, schools, colleges, churches, saw-mills, in fact well equipped in everything required to make up a good substantial town. Steamboats run on the river. Any amount of logs rafted down this river and sawn into lumber at the Prince Albert mills, giving lots of employment, both winter and summer: lumber here is cheap. After driving over as much of this district as time permitted we pronounced it a first-class country for mixed farming and a stockman's paradise. Plenty of timber for all purposes, water, rivers, lakes and spring creeks: no limit to the hay and grass. From here we went west to Edmonton: we examined this district thoroughly. After driving over it for several days, and visiting a number of farmers and stockmen, we pronounce this the best country we ever saw for mixed farming, and especially for stock raising. Stockmen here are all making money. Steers selling for four cents! when we can only get one to two cents in South Dakota. Taxes are very low. There is yet lots of Homestead land where any man over eighteen can take up a quarter section: timber, water, coal, hay and grass without limit: good laws, good society. We know that this is just the place for men to make homes and where industry will meet a certain reward. In conclusion, we tell our friends in South Dakota that are not satisfied with their success there, that if they go to either Prince Albert or Edmonton and go into either mixed farming or stock

raising we believe there is no place on this continent where success is as likely to crown their efforts.

JAS. HUDSON, Groton, S. Dakota.

H. L. WOOD, Groton, S. Dakota.

REPORT OF A MICHIGAN MAN.

WINNIPEG, MAN., 10th Aug., 1891.

SIR. - Having visited Manitoba and the North-West Territories in the interests of farmers now living in Saginaw county, Mich., I beg leave to submit the following report: I arrived in Winnipeg June 29 and on the following day proceeded to southern Manitoba. The country is very suitable for mixed farming. The soil is a black, sandy loam, with clay subsoil, and gives evidence of great fertility in the wonderful crops it produces. Many of the farmers I visited expected the wheat to yield 35 bushels to the acre. Oats, barley and all kinds of garden vegetables were showing an excellent growth. I visited the Turtle Mountains, along the south of Manitoba. They are covered with timber (poplar, scrub oak and ash), which yield a good supply of firewood. A great many creeks run out of the mountains and numerous marshes in the vicinity give an abundance of hay. There is a very beautiful lake of pure, clear water at Killarney, and a larger one at Whitewater. Generally speaking, the well-water is excellent. Near Deloraine quite a productive coal mine has been opened up, and cheap coal is expected in the near future.

I visited the Portage plains and the Brandon district, and was as far west as Regina. I venture to say that along the main line of the Canadian Pacific, from High Bluff to Virden, there is one of the most productive cereal growing districts of the world. Some idea of the crops can be obtained from the fact that it was found necessary, this year, to import 1,700 farm labourers to assist the farmers to harvest their grain, and a great many more are still required. A noticeable feature of the grain fields is the evenness of surface, showing the soil to be of uniform strength. There are fields of hundreds of acres, in which the grain all stands about the same height. I was informed that there is no midge, weevil, rust or blight of any kind to injure the grain.

I examined the Indian Head and Regina districts very thoroughly. The surface is level. The soil is heavier than that of the Brandon and Portage la Prairie districts. I should characterize it as a clay loam. It does not bake, but is soft and mellow and works easily. That it is rich can be seen from the crops and enormous garden vegetables it

produces. To the south of Regina there is excellent grazing country. The water supply of Western Assiniboia is somewhat interesting. Farmers have dug 100 feet deep without reaching water, whereas at 25 feet from the first well an abundant supply has been obtained at a depth of not more than 40 feet. In one locality where there seems to have been difficulty in getting water, an excellent flowing well has been struck.

I was very much pleased with the appearance of the Prince Albert district. The country in the immediate vicinity is admirably adapted to stock-raising. It is hilly, and contains numerous small lakes, and marshes where the hay grows from two to three feet long. The hills, too, are covered with a very luxuriant growth of grass, pea-vine, vetches, etc. There is an abundance of timber (spruce, oak and poplar), for fencing and firewood. About 50 miles from Prince Albert, along the Stony Creek and the Carrot River, there is a locality unsurpassed in the territories for mixed farming. Homesteads can be had in this locality, or land can be purchased for \$2.50 an acre.

Returning east, I took a trip on the Manitoba and North Western Railway, from Portage la Prairie to Salteaux. The country through which this road runs presents a gently undulating surface. It is nearly all arable, and excellent for mixed farming. The soil is a rich black loam, in some places two feet deep, with a clay sub-soil. An abundance of pure, clear water can be obtained by digging from 8 to 20 feet deep. The timber supply, which is an important consideration, is very plentiful. A large quantity is suitable for being manufactured into lumber. Near Binscarth there is a saw mill doing a flourishing business. There are numerous small marshes which yield an abundance of very nutritious hay. Fish abound in the small lakes, and ducks and geese are very common. The crops, as elsewhere in the Canadian North West, are marvellous. One needs only to see them to appreciate the fertility of the soil.

People enjoy living in a country where there is some good scenery. Along this line, though the surface of the country is gently undulating, yet in some places it is sufficiently broken to become delightfully picturesque. For a short distance we ran through a beautiful valley, and frequently we got glimpses of delectable plains. Many of the villages that are springing up along the line are very pleasantly situated, either in some secluded dell or on a sheltered hillside.

In conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude to the officials of the

Canadian Pacific Railway and the Manitoba and North Western Railway, and to the Government agents, all of whom facilitated my making as thorough examination of their magnificent country as the time at my disposal would permit.

Yours very truly,

A. KNECHTEL.

Mr. James B. Truscott, an old resident of Faulk county, has just returned from the Canadian North-West and writes a long and enthusiastic letter regarding the country. We are permitted to make the following extracts, the whole letter being of a similar import :

PRINCE ALBERT, N.W.T., CANADA, 6th August, 1891.

DEAR FRIENDS IN DAKOTA.--As you are well aware, I left home and you on the 27th of July, 1891, and arrived in Aberdeen about 10.30 p.m., and after a stop of two days, during which time I called on W. A. Webster, the Canadian colonization agent at Aberdeen, with whom I had a very pleasant and highly instructive visit, I started for Winnipeg, where I arrived in good time and where, let me tell you, I met with a revelation: for, instead of finding a poor, miserable, scattering, poverty-stricken, God-forsaken place, as most of our papers would lead us to believe, I found a most beautiful, charming, healthful and enterprising city, possessing apparently everything that can be found in any large city.

At 2.30 p.m., Saturday, 1st August, the train pulled out of the depot and away we sped for the west. After passing over about one hundred miles of the best country I ever saw, we arrived at Carberry, with the sun about one hour high, and then finding Mr. Wm. McMillan and presenting my letter of introduction that gentleman rushed to the livery stable, got a horse and buggy and away we went out through the country; and oh, oh, what fields of grain! I got out of the buggy and stood against the posts of the railway fence, but on attempting to take an observation for a line from the top of the fence post to the top of a post on the other side of the field, found I was unable to do so, the wheat being too high, higher than the fence posts, and the field as flat and level as a floor. For fear that there might be a swell in the field and thereby deceive me, I went to the corner of the field and took a view diagonally across a small portion of it with the same results. The wheat was taller than the fence posts: yes, taller than myself, and so thick that a jack rabbit or a dog could not run through

it : and this I say not only of one field but of many. There are hundreds of the same : it is the history of the country.

Out on the Hope farm I saw other wonders ; but what is the use of describing. It would only be repeating what has already been said. Suffice it to say that Mr. Hope came to his present home in 1878, bringing very little property with him, and now has 320 acres. One field of 170 acres of his wheat will turn off forty bushels to the acre ; thirty acres of oats will yield about seventy-five bushels to the acre ; and a large field of timothy the best I ever saw, and I have seen good in New York, New Hampshire, Vermont and Connecticut he claimed 3 tons per acre. He took me to a forty-acre field which yielded crops that in the last three years sold for \$900, \$1,000 and \$1,200 respectively. He also has a fine lot of horses, cattle, &c., a splendid house, two years' wood cut and piled near the door, some three or four hundred bushels in the granary left over from last year.

Back to Mr. Bedford's we drive again, and found him patiently waiting for us. After a little chat he gave me the following averages which he expects. I think on some he is low, but his business being an experimental one, some of the grains run low, thus bringing down the general average.

Wheat, 27 bushels per acre.

Oats, 75 " "

Barley, 55 " "

Pease, 20 " "

Timothy, 1½ tons "

Red clover, 3 " "

Green corn fodder, 46 tons per acre.

Last year one kernel of corn produced fourteen stalks, the united length of which was eighty-five feet.

Mr. T. O. Davis, a resident of Prince Albert, took me into his garden, where I could see that no special pains had been taken to force anything, but still the growth was wonderful. An apricot tree five feet high ; maple trees, one year old, two feet high ; tobacco with leaves 14 x 28 inches ; potatoes of late planting, fifteen stalks and twenty potatoes to the hill, besides a lot of little ones ; cauliflower, headed, cooked and eaten ; raspberries of this year's planting, one stalk had twenty-one berries ; flowers without number, such as poppies, four o'clocks, pansies, mignonette, etc.

But my samples, here they are :

One sample of Fife wheat, 4 ft. 8 in. high, will yield about 40 bushels per acre.

One sample of Ladoga wheat, 5 ft. high, will yield about 40 bushels per acre.

One sample of Ladoga wheat, 4 ft. 3 in. high, will yield about 35 bushels per acre.

One sample of oats, 4 ft. high, will yield about 75 bushels per acre.

One sample of timothy hay, 6 ft. high, will yield about 72 bushels per acre.

The above are all from the farm of Mr. Wm. Plaxton, six miles out of town.

We next called on Mr. T. F. Miller, near here. He also gave me a fine lot of samples, as follows :

Oats, ready to cut, 3 ft. 6 in. high, will yield about 60 bushels per acre.

Oats, sowed 19th June, 4 ft. high, will yield about 30 bushels per acre.

Ladoga wheat, 5 ft. high, will yield about 30 bushels per acre.

Ladoga wheat, 4½ ft. high, will yield about 40 bushels per acre.

Fife wheat, 3½ ft. high, will yield about 27 bushels per acre.

Barley, ready to cut, 4 ft. high, will yield about 50 bushels per acre.

Mr. Miller came here poor 17 years ago, but he is now well off, having a bank account reaching all the way to Winnipeg. He says he never missed a crop: never was nipped by the frost till last year. Their frosted crop yielded 25 bushels an acre and sold for 75 cents a bushel. He sold last year cattle to the amount of \$213, and this year, so far, to the amount of \$145.

Mr. J. McArthur, of this place, came here in 1884 with 200 sheep. He has now 1,500; sold this year 103 fat wethers at \$5.50 each, and 5,000 lbs. of wool at 12 cents a pound, besides 500 lambs, which can be sold at any time for \$3 each. Mr. McArthur is now a banker in town.

Mr. James Mair told me that in one year he had from 90 acres 2,300 bushels of wheat; from 8 acres 600 bushels of barley; from 12 acres 1,150 bushels of oats. He has always had good crops, except two years, which then gave him about 15 bushels per acre each time. He came here in 1880.

And now, Dakota farmers, friends and neighbours, you who have had the courage, hope and life nearly ground out of you through the

long succession of failure of crops; you who must make a move very soon or go to the wall, perhaps never to recover, why not come this way? This place is near you; the people are the most cordial, the most hospitable, I ever met. They not only want you to come, but with out-stretched arms they beg you to come and be one of their happy and prosperous group. The climate is mild and healthful, the land is free, the harvest is sure, and the profit is rich. With one accord, the people here all say, Come. They will meet you at the border and show you the way. All you have to do is to come.

To the gentlemen at Carberry, Brandon and Prince Albert, who treated me so generously, I now return my sincerest thanks for the favours shown me, hoping also that their very bountiful harvest will be safely garnered, and that before long I will be one of their company.

JAMES B. TRUSCOTT.*

MILLARD, FAULK CO., SOUTH DAKOTA.

Extracts from Report of Delegates from Spink County, South Dakota, from Aberdeen Station, November 18th, 1891:

We left Aberdeen on 14th September, arriving in Winnipeg next day.

We saw wheat at Portage la Prairie averaging 35 to 50 bushels per acre, and thousands of acres of it.

We went on to Brandon and visited the Sandison farm.

Here we found three steam threshers at work and were informed by those in charge that the section on which they were working had turned out over 40 bushels of wheat per acre, and in a circuit of eight miles in this vicinity we learned that the yield was from 45 to 50 bushels per acre.

From Brandon we went to Prince Albert. We found this to be a magnificent grazing country along the line of road. At Saskatoon we saw four car loads of three year old steers for which the buyer paid \$40 each.

We arrived at Prince Albert on the night of the 19th September and found they had as yet no frost. Tomatoes and all vegetables green. Their first frost occurred on the 24th September over a month later than in Spink county.

Mr. Truscott is now settled in Prince Albert, and on another page will be found his report of the country.

On the following Monday we got teams for the purpose of looking over the Prince Albert country.

We went on to Carrot River and camped for dinner. Here some of our party took up land, as we found it excellent for mixed farming.

After dinner we started on for Stony Creek, arriving at 5 p.m.

We camped here over night, and next day made a selection of a township of land to which we intend to go in the spring, and can only add that it contains living water, plenty of timber, first-class soil and good hay, with room enough for all who wish to join us, and we conclude by saying that we have seen Mr. Child's letter in the *Star*, together with the letters of other parties from time to time, and we heartily endorse all that they contain and add that the story has not been half told of the hidden wealth of the Canadian North-West.

(Signed)

W. J. TURNER,

W. H. HOLCOMB,

C. C. ELLIOTT,

T. JONES.

MELETTE, SPINK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA.

[The above-mentioned gentlemen spent over a month in the Canadian North-West, are the most influential men of their neighbourhood and have selected their future homes in the Prince Albert district.]

PRINCE ALBERT, 8th November, 1891.

SIR,--In compliance with your request for my opinion of this country generally and the district of Prince Albert in particular, I may say in a few few words that I arrived here from England about four months ago, and since then have made several trips hither and thither for the purpose of seeing the country preparatory to taking up a homestead. Having done so I am bound to confess that in all my travels, and they have been very extensive, I have never seen any country so admirably adapted to the requirements of immigrants who are desirous of engaging in mixed farming or cattle breeding.

The country between the rivers, with its brusque undulations, numerous lakes and picturesque bluffs; the broad slopes of the Birch Hills, and beyond the Carrot River, where the wide prairie studded with timber belts and intersected by rippling brooks seems to cry aloud for the settler. All are good: wood, water, hay, are in abundance. The exceeding fertility of the rich dark soil is evidenced by the luxuriant growth of the wild pea vine, natural grasses and other beef-

producing herbage, while garden vegetables of nearly every description can be brought to perfection.

The climate in my opinion is without exception the most enjoyable I have ever met with. During the hottest days of summer the heat is less oppressive than in Europe, while the nights are cool and pleasant. Of the winter I cannot yet speak from experience, but no one seems to complain of the low temperature, and some appear actually to consider winter to be the most pleasurable season of the year.

I have conversed with several farmers here and elsewhere relative to summer frosts, which I had heard spoken of as the bug-bear of the North-West. Some men tell me that they never had a failure of their wheat crop from that cause; others confess to occasional damage, but all agree that the best farmers suffer but little, and that when failure of a crop occurs it is too frequently due to late sowing or other avoidable causes. This year summer frost has been conspicuous by its absence, and the crop of cereals of all kinds has been superb.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) S. H. SCROGGS.

PRINCE ALBERT, SASKATCHEWAN, 8th Nov., 1891.

I the undersigned wish to make the following report for the benefit of intending settlers. On the 15th May, 1891, I left South Dakota and made a thorough trip of inspection over Manitoba and the North-West, and, after spending six weeks over the principal parts, I made up my mind to locate in the Prince Albert district.

I went back to Dakota and took off what crop I had and picked up (as well as a great many more) and emigrated to Prince Albert. I have now been here about two months. I have seen considerable grain threshed. I have not seen any frozen grain, the seed being good and the sample the best I ever saw in my life. I pronounce this district second to none for mixed farming. I have seen cattle that have never been fed on any hay, or had any shelter, except the poplar groves, and they were fat and looked well. There is an abundance of grass, wood and good water, and the land is good, and is in good condition for next season's crop. The weather up to date is very fine. In conclusion, I would say to the farmers in Dakota, Come to Prince Albert, where you will find a country that will soon repay you for all the time lost in Dakota. Also, you will find a class of people here that will do what they can to help you.

(Signed) JAMES CAMERON.

PRINCE ALBERT, N.W.T., 9th November, 1891.

MY DEAR SIRS,— You no doubt would be glad to hear from us in our new home, but as we are among the late and new arrivals, this being only our fourth week here, you cannot expect much of a report of the country from us at this date.

The climate here, so far, is delightful : we have no winds, as we used to understand them in Dakota : we have had some decided frosts, with a flurry or two of snow, but the ground is perfectly bare now, and is likely to be for a month yet to come, our neighbour's cattle taking care of themselves.

Crops of the last season exceeded the most sanguine expectations, the yield of wheat averaging around on all sides of 40 bushels an acre, oats 75 to 100 bushels, and barley 50 bushels an acre, whilst cabbage, potatoes and other garden products are simply immense, potatoes yielding at the rate of 7 hills to the bushel, and oh ! what beauties : they would put Ireland to the blush.

Wood here, for fuel, is very plentiful and cheap : we are now getting all we need for the taking.

Though the crops grown here are surpassingly excellent, yet, judging from the number and quality of the horses, cattle and sheep we see around us, we are forced to the conclusion that this is the *stockman's paradise*, here being found the very best of pasturage and meadows, the best of water, and natural shelter without limit : whilst other shelter, such as barns, sheds, &c., can be put up as cheaply as in any part of the world.

And as experienced, practical farmers, we who have made farming our life-labour and study, we who have owned and worked in good countries as well as bad, would say that we are well pleased with our new home, and to our brother farmers in other parts of America, those who seem to be struggling against fate, to you, we, in all sincerity, earnestness and truthfulness, advise you to come and cast your destinies in this most bountiful of bountiful countries.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

J. B. TRUSCOTT,

M. FREEMAN,

W. M. SLATTERY,

All of Millard, Faulk Co., S. Dakota.

To our friends in South Dakota and elsewhere.

To my Friends and Neighbours in Brown County, South Dakota.

I left Aberdeen on 4th October for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian North-West, in company with Thos. Gregg, of Clarke county. Next day we reached Winnipeg, a splendid city. Mr. Campbell, General Immigration Agent, met us at the station: showed us the agricultural exhibit, then going on. Here we saw the products of the country from Calgary to the Red River. The display of grain, roots and stock was enough to gladden the heart of any farmer. The horned stock were the best I ever saw in any country. From Winnipeg I went west to Qu'Appelle, where I stopped two days, visiting friends who showed me over the beautiful Qu'Appelle valley, and I wish to say that for wheat growing that valley is hard to beat. After parting with these kind friends we pushed west to Calgary, a splendid growing town. From there we went both to the Red Deer, where we stopped two days looking over the country. We pronounce this a first-class stock country. From there we went to Edmonton. Here we looked over the country for twenty miles around, where every farmer told us they were more than satisfied with the country and their success—good soil, plenty of timber, first-class coal right on the surface, hay and grass in abundance, stock of all kinds rolling fat. At all the points mentioned there is plenty of free homestead land. Any person 18 years old can file on a quarter section: filing fee only \$10. Donald Ross showed us over the Edmonton district. He showed us timothy hay and garden stuff that excelled anything we ever saw. Stock of all kinds bring big prices as compared with South Dakota.

In conclusion, I tell my friends that I found the country much better than the agents at Aberdeen described it to me. That farmers desiring homes cannot do better than settle in the Canadian North-West for the above and other reasons too numerous to mention.

At Winnipeg we visited friends who have farmed there 33 years, and have made a grand success.

B. C. TALBOT,

Bath, South Dakota.

CALGARY, 11th June, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—As I promised, I will let you know the results obtained so far from my trip and stay in Alberta. I presume Mr. Johnson has told you that we did not have a chance to go any farther north than the Red Deer, but we had a pretty good tramp around there, especially

along the Medicine River, and I hardly think a better place can be found for stock raising and mixed farming than there is on both sides of that river. The water is good and accessible, hay plenty, and pasture unlimited. A large amount of the land is admirably suited to agricultural purposes, so far as the soil is concerned, although it is more broken up than the plains of the Red River valley, it being all more or less rolling. Now people think that they must go to Lake Winnipeg or the Hudson Bay for fish, but we stayed between 2 and 3 hours at the creek that runs from Snake Lake to Swan Lake, and caught in that time 232 pikes, with no more formidable weapons than some willow sticks and our hands, and if that is not a big catch, I am sure fishing cannot be carried on with a less expensive outfit.

My opinion of the climate, based on the effects it has had on me, is, that for healthfulness it cannot be surpassed.

Yours truly,

PEMBINA CO., DAKOTA.

JONAS RALL.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, 27th August, 1891.

SIR, —I came to Alberta with a band of horses in 1882 and again in 1883, and was so favourably impressed with it that I concluded to make my home here, and returned with that intention in 1886. Since then I have resided at Calgary, and, in connection with my business as stock dealer, am continually in the saddle and have constant opportunities of seeing the country during all seasons. And I must say that the more I see of it the more I am impressed with the great future it must have as a cattle, agricultural and mineral country. As to my experience, I may say that I have not confined myself to stock alone, as I have under crop some 225 acres, principally oats, but have also wheat, barley, potatoes and roots, and I am pleased to be able to state that my crops are a splendid lot. I have oats that stand 5 feet 10 inches, and will yield on an average from 45 bushels to 55 bushels per acre, and much of the crop will, I believe, thresh over 65 bushels per acre.

My brother and myself have 1,500 to 2,000 head of cattle, principally three and four-year-old steers, a choice herd. I find cattle do remarkably well here. We have about 150 head of horses, and as a horse country I believe Alberta has no equal. We have also from 1,000 to 2,000 sheep near Calgary, and they do very well. In fact, taken all round, I know of no other country which can equal the Calgary district as a grain-growing, dairy farming and stock country.

W. R. HULL.

REPORT OF FRENCH CANADIAN DELEGATES FROM
DAKOTA ON THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST.

DEAR SIR, According to our promise, we forward you a report of our trip to the Canadian North-West. We were to report impartially our satisfaction as well as our disappointment.

We were not doubting your good faith, but as you were reporting on localities with which you were not in all cases personally acquainted, we must confess that we entertained some doubts.

Following to the letter your advice, we communicated with Mr. Miquellon, Government agent at Calgary, who placed himself at our disposal.

From Calgary we drove all the way to Edmonton. We could have used the railway which is about completed, but we prefer to drive, to better judge of the country.

We could not say that all we have seen is uniformly first-class land and equally propitious for mixed farming; no, but what we can without exaggeration affirm is, that from the Red Deer River to Edmonton and specially the Battle River and Beaver Lake, on a distance of over 100 miles there is country which is excelled nowhere and has all the requisites for successful farming. The soil is uniformly rich; everywhere wood and prairie are about in equal proportions. Besides such large rivers as the Red Deer, the Battle and the Saskatchewan, there is quite a number of creeks and lakes; some, like the Buffalo and Beaver lakes, are from 12 to 15 miles long, in which fish is said to be plentiful. And what should count for something also, the appearance of the country is quite inviting and picturesque. It is everywhere but a succession of fine sloping hills, diversified with groves of wood and lakes, which give to the whole country the appearance of a park. Although the poplar and the balsam of gilead are predominating, yet there is everywhere enough spruce for the ordinary wants of the settler.

We might say that all the country around Calgary and as far north as the Lone Pine is a splendid stock country, the winter is very mild, and stock do well, but we do not believe that it is as well suited for agriculture. More to the north, as far and even further than Edmonton, it would be hard to imagine anything better for mixed farming. Hay is in abundance everywhere, even on high ground, and it is easy to see that a country with such vegetation cannot be wanting in the necessary moisture for successful farming. Besides, our stock of information

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on this point has been so positive and diversified that it would be impossible to entertain doubts.

The yield of all cereals, which is larger in Dakota than in the middle States, is also larger in Manitoba, and larger yet in the Saskatchewan valley.

The spot we have selected for our colony is Beaver Lake, and hard to please would be those who would not be satisfied with it.

It is said that all the North Saskatchewan country from Edmonton to Manitoba, 700 miles long by 200 wide, is about the same as we have seen.

Surprising as it may appear, all the cattle we have seen was rolling fat, although most of it had not been stabled during the winter. Another point in favour of the country is the total absence of the hot winds sometimes so disastrous in southern and western Dakota.

The part of Dakota in which we live, that is, the Red River valley, ranks high as an agricultural country, yet for those who have children to settle, or those who want to go into mixed farming and take homesteads, we cannot too strongly recommend the Saskatchewan valley, and more particularly the points we have visited.

Your informations were correct in every particular, and if there is something to add it must be in a favourable sense.

We feel grateful to you for all your troubles in our behalf, as you have thereby enabled us to improve our position.

We have the honour to be,

Yours, &c.,

ANGE HAMEL,
MATHIAS LAMBERT,
OLIVIER LETOURNEAU,
CHS. N. MORIN,
DAMASE LACHANCE.

WINNIPEG, 21st Nov., 1891.

DEAR SIR, —Having returned from a flying trip to the Edmonton district, whither I went in quest of suitable land for settlement, I desire to inform you that I found the district all that it was represented to me to be—a first class country for immigration. Going through there I found this to be a very fine country, good rich soil, good water in abundance, plenty of timber for all purposes, besides the immeasurable quantity of coal on the Saskatchewan.

The yield of grain in the Edmonton district this season has been great, both as to quantity and quality. One farmer near the town threshed 12,000 bushels of grain from 275 acres, his wheat giving over 40 bushels to the acre.

This trip so satisfied me that I intend at an early day to move my family and effects to Edmonton.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT REID.

JADIS POST OFFICE, KITTSOX CO., MINN.

WINNIPEG, 23rd Nov., 1891.

DEAR SIR, --Having been delegated by a number of my neighbouring families in Michigan to inspect the western territories of Canada, I left Michigan late in August last, arriving in Edmonton on the 11th September. From that time I remained in the Edmonton district to acquaint myself as thoroughly as might be with the different localities until the 18th inst. During these two months I travelled a good deal in every direction from Edmonton, and speaking generally of that district, I may say, that for the purpose of mixed farming it has no superior and few equals under the sun. I visited farmers throughout the district, both when about winding up their harvest and when finished threshing. The sample of grain is excellent and the yield far exceeding the farmers' own expectations; wheat went 40 to 50 bushels to the acre, averaging about 45; barley 45 to 50, and oats 80 to 100 bushels per acre, while vegetables and roots showed a still more remarkable growth. I saw a farmer digging up 100 bushels of potatoes with his manure fork, and so did each of his assistants, and I saw many a cabbage weighing 15 to 20 lbs.

The soil is rich to an extraordinary degree, as above mentioned products amply verify. Water is plentiful and of first-class quality, small lakes being found in many places as well as running streams. Timber is plentiful for farm use and building purposes, and besides a never failing supply of good coal, which a farmer can take from the banks of the Saskatchewan and load his waggon free of charge. All these properties combined make the district all that can be desired for mixed farming.

In conclusion, I may add that as soon as circumstances allow, I shall go to the Edmonton district to settle.

WM. H. PAIGE,

Spencer Creek, Antrim Co.,

Mich., U. S.

WINNIPEG, 15th December, 1891.

DEAR SIR, Having just returned from a visit to the Canadian North-West, in company with Mr. Wm. Ritchie, of Grafton, we, the undersigned farmers of North Dakota and Minnesota, wish to make the following report :

We visited the country north and south, east and west, of Edmonton, for miles, and found a country that could not be surpassed for grain-raising or mixed farming. There are numberless good meadows, and it would be hard to find a farm without a good grove of poplar, spruce or tamarac in fact, all the wood necessary for building purposes. There is an abundance of clear, fresh water in all parts and good building lumber can be bought from \$15 to \$18 per 1,000 feet. Finer cattle and sheep we have never seen. The climate is all that can be desired, as it is not nearly as cold there in December as it was in Dakota and Minnesota in November, when we left the Red River valley. Good coal can be had all along the banks of the Saskatchewan and Sturgeon rivers for the taking out, or can be bought at the pit for about \$1.75 per ton.

We have no hesitation in advising all who wish to better their condition to come to the Canadian North-West.

JOHN J. SCOTT, Lake City, Minnesota.

MARTIN NILSON, Bellmont, North Dakota.

THOS. OLIVER do do

ALECK ASHER do do

ROBERT RITCHIE, Carman, Minnesota.

JAMES MILLER, Crookston do

E. C. SMITH do do

WINNIPEG, 16th June, 1891.

The following is a report of three gentlemen from Cooperstown, N.D., who spent several weeks last spring in inspecting the Canadian North-West:

On arriving at Winnipeg we found a beautiful city of 27,000 inhabitants, with large solid buildings, which not only goes to show the enterprise of the people, but also that they have every faith in the country that backs it.

We then proceeded to Portage la Prairie, where we found a large stretch of land in the vicinity, which cannot be surpassed for grain-growing on this continent. We also found a good farming country

extending as far west as Broadview, which was as far west as daylight would permit our seeing the country. We then proceeded to Regina, the capital of the Great North-West Territories, and here we found a good agricultural country for miles around. We also noticed the fine substantial brick buildings in this town, which shows that enterprising business men have faith in the town as well as the surrounding country.

From here we took the "Regina and Long Lake Railway" to Prince Albert, and after reaching Saskatoon, and from there north to Prince Albert, we found a country that cannot be excelled for mixed farming. You can scarcely find a section without lots of hay, timber, fresh water and arable land; we were told that that same stretch of country extends as far west as the Rocky Mountains along the valleys of the Saskatchewan.

We next proceeded to Calgary; there we found a beautiful town, 3,500 of a population, with buildings that would be a credit to a town three times its population, with a fine country surrounding it. Proceeding northward on the "Calgary and Edmonton" road, we also found a country that is hard to beat. Prairie dotted with groves of spruce, poplar and pine, also numerous small lakes and creeks of fresh water; a park-like country in its appearance. The soil is from one to four and a-half feet in depth of black loam with a heavy sub-soil—in fact, we think this and the Prince Albert district the garden of the North-West.

We wish to express our appreciation of the kindness and attention shown us during our five days' visit to Prince Albert, where we were well received and given every facility to inspect the outlying districts.

F. B. KING, J. H. McDONALD, A. T. BOWDEN.

Cooperstown, Griggs Co., North Dakota.

THE CANADIAN NORTH WEST.

SHEHO LAKE, ASSINIBOIA, 2nd Nov., 1891.

We, the undersigned, formerly from South Dakota and now located in the vicinity of Sheho Lake, Assiniboia, are well satisfied with our locations, and find it to be as good as reported by the agents at Aberdeen. We would advise any man who wishes to go into mixed farming to come and see this country, as we think it is just the place to make money. There is plenty of timber for building, fencing and fuel.

There are some beautiful lakes and fine springs, a good rich soil and plenty of hay.

(Signed)

H. B. RUSH,	A. D. McCLURE,
B. A. DAYTON,	G. B. WILTSE,
JACOB MAURER,	FRED. PAGE,
ED. MAURER,	GEO. VINHURST,
WM. J. MAURER,	J. C. MARKHAM,
FRANK KUCHLE,	O. C. MARKHAM,
H. HALSTEAD,	DANIEL CAMPBELL,
R. T. CAMMACK,	GILBERT CAMPBELL,
CHANCY HINDS,	T. CORNER,
MERRITT AUSTIN,	JOHN DREIER,
CHRIST. BUER,	J. F. DREIER,
W. A. MOREY,	WM. HOESCHER,

FROM BRULE COUNTY.

A BRULE COUNTY FARMER ADDS SOMETHING TO THE PRAISE OF THE NORTH-WEST. - HE IS SATISFIED THAT THE CANADIAN NORTH-WEST IS A GOOD PLACE FOR A HOME. ONE YOUNG MAN'S SUCCESS IN FARMING IN THAT COUNTRY.

GENTLEMEN,—Being on my way from the South Dakota colony, Assiniboia, Canada, I just dropped off here to tell you—as you know I went from Brule county last spring—I found the country much better than you represented it to me. I have taken up a quarter section near Sheho Lake, where I have plenty of timber for all purposes; plenty of water, splendid grass and hay to no end. I have built a good log house and have everything ready to move in next spring. I am now on my way to Brule county to get my stock and what things I have there ready to go up in early spring. A car from Aberdeen to Yorkton will cost me \$78; but stock is so much higher in Manitoba than South Dakota that the difference will more than pay the cost of transportation. Cows in Assiniboia are worth \$30 to \$40; all other stock in proportion. On my claim there are forty acres of nice bush; the soil is as good as is to be found anywhere, and this is proved by the enormous growth of oats, barley and roots grown on breaking in the colony this year. Next summer, I believe, a railroad will run through the colony to Prince Albert. The settlers will then have a railway at their doors. I tell all my friends in Brule county that I have settled

there, believing it to be just the place to make a good home. Mixed farming pays splendidly, and as a stock country I never saw the equal: hundreds of steers sold this fall right off the grass for four cents on the hoof. Next summer there will be lots of work on the building of the railway. Everybody I met there seemed contented. Money was plenty, and there are no two per cent a month fiends there. Taxes are very low, and money only eight per cent per annum - no bonus.

Yours truly,

FRED. MOHR.

CHAMBERLAIN, BRULE COUNTY, S. D.

WHAT TWO WELL KNOWN SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS SAW IN THE CANADIAN NORTH WEST.

To our Friends and Neighbours of Brown County:

We left Aberdeen, S. D., 9th Sept. for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian North-West.

After crossing the boundary we saw magnificent crops of all kinds, all the way to Winnipeg. We found Winnipeg the most substantial city of its size we ever saw. Vegetables and small fruit of all descriptions. Between Winnipeg and Yorkton, a distance of 279 miles, we saw the finest crops that we ever saw in our lives: oats, wheat and barley. From Yorkton we drove into the South Dakota colony, a distance of 45 miles. We examined this country carefully, and found it a very fine grain and stock country, and plenty of wood, water, hay and grass. We met the greater number of the South Dakota colonists, and failed to find a single one dissatisfied. We returned from there to Portage, and from there we went west to Regina, passing immense fields of wheat along the route, with evidences of prosperous farmers on all sides. We spent two days in the Regina district, and pronounce it a first-class soil for agricultural purposes. Saw some of the finest cattle and sheep that we ever saw. Three-year-old heifers that would weigh 1,300 to 1,400 pounds, selling for \$32.00 each. From here we went to Prince Albert, a distance of 247 miles, a prosperous town of 1,100 inhabitants, containing saw mills, grist mills, schools, churches and steamboat landing.

From this place we drove sixty miles south-east in Carrot River settlement; found everybody prosperous and hard at work securing their immense crop of grain. Mr. Beattie stated that he helped Mr. Cameron, one of his neighbours, thresh 517 bushels of oats from six

acres, and from thirty-three loads of sheaves he threshed 900 bushels of wheat.

We found the farmers all prosperous; thoroughly satisfied with their prospects. The people we met all looked the picture of health, and all well clad.

We enquired particularly about chattel mortgages, and we found it difficult to make the farmers understand what they were, but when we told them how universal they were in South Dakota, and that the usual rate of interest is twenty-four to thirty-six per cent, they looked astonished, and asked us why we stayed in such a country, and under such a condition of things. Our answer was that we would get out just as soon as we could complete arrangements.

In conclusion— we spent three weeks looking over this beautiful country, and found it satisfactory in every respect, and found it much better than we expected from the description given by the agents in Aberdeen. We desire to say to our friends and neighbours in South Dakota who are not satisfied with their success here, that they can make a success there, with a little means and their own labour.

GEO. WENTWORTH,
F. G. WENTWORTH.

28th September, 1891.

To our Friends and Neighbours in the vicinity of Aberdeen, South Dakota :

In compliance with your suggestions that we should examine the Canadian North-West now open for settlement, and especially that portion known as the Toachwood district, where our former neighbours have located during the past three months, we went to Winnipeg, where the agents of the Canadian Pacific Railway and Manitoba and North Western Railway kindly gave us transportation over their respective lines, and went direct to Yorkton, the present terminus of the latter road. Here we were met by friends who took us out to the location of the Dakota colony at Sheho Lake and showed us the settlements, together with the unoccupied lands. We have no hesitation in saying that a finer spot for a poor man to do mixed farming we have never seen, containing, as it does, plenty of timber, water and natural hay, with an elegant sandy loam, with wild fruit in abundance, game of all kinds, from a moose to a prairie chicken, and an abundance of fish in the lakes. It is not our intention to write a book in regard to this country, but we do say to all those who know us, that they can confidently accept the representations which have been made to them

by Agents Webster and Holmes, that their description does not come up to the reality, and so far as we could learn there never has been a failure from drought in that country, and no crops have been lost through frost, where the grain has been put in in a reasonable time. In fact, we found every farmer prosperous, with the prospects of a greater crop this year than ever before. We can only add that the Canadian Government gives 160 acres under their homestead law, which for \$10 filing fee enables a man to obtain a home in three years; where interest is only 8 per cent per annum and taxes are only for school purposes—about \$4 per year on a quarter section, and no personal property tax whatever. We recommend to those who have not been able to make a living in this country that in no part of this continent can they obtain as good a home in as short a time as they can in the Canadian North-West.

WM. H. CHAPMAN,
THOS. HEFFELFINGER,
WM. HEFFELFINGER.

ABERDEEN, 15th July, 1891.

WHAT TWO SPINK COUNTY FARMERS SAW IN ASSINIBOLA.

ABERDEEN, S.D., 16th September, 1891.

GENTLEMEN, We have just returned from the "Dakota" colony, situated in the Fishing Lake district of Assiniboia, North-West Territory of Canada, and find it to be all, and more than has been represented to us by you. We went direct to Sec. 4, Tp. 30, Range 9, west of 2nd Meridian, as recommended to us by Capt. Holmes, and were more than pleased with it, having found it to be a beautiful natural park, containing excellent soil, fine groves of timber, and a lake accessible to every quarter of the section, containing eighty acres of first-class water. We confidently recommend to all our friends that they can take any quarter in the tract, and not be disappointed, as all contain timber, water and natural hay, with first-class soil, and we consider it a waste of money to go up first to examine, as every one so far is well satisfied. The first frost was felt in the colony on the 13th September, and we saw excellent wheat which was sown the first of May, and for vegetables we believe no country on earth can surpass it.

Time does not permit us to further enlarge on the beauties of this country. But we sum it up by saying that we have located on Sec.

4 in the colony, and believe that we have struck a perfect country for mixed farming.

Yours very truly,

F. F. LAHAIE,
C. S. HILTGEN.

WHAT A BROWN COUNTY FARMER SAW.

To my Friends and Neighbours in Brown County, S.D. :

I left Aberdeen 27th August, for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian North-West, with a view of settling there. Next day I arrived at Winnipeg, a magnificent city full of life and business; here Mr. Eden kindly gave me transportation over his road to Yorkton, the present terminus; from here I drove forty-five miles to Lake Sheho, where the South Dakota colony is located, where I met a number of old friends, who received me with open arms and gave me a warm welcome. Next morning a friend drove me out to look for a location, and I tell you, friends, it did not take me long to find just what I wanted. I selected a quarter-section on the edge of a beautiful lake of water, a nice place to make a home. Plenty of timber for building, fencing and fuel. The crops between Winnipeg and Yorkton are the finest I ever saw in my life. Harvest was nearly finished and threshing was going on in many places. The farmers I met in Manitoba all seemed to be prosperous. In conclusion, I tell my friends that I found the country much better than the agents at Aberdeen represented it to me, and I am going there to make my home, and I do so with and after personal observation.

PETER C. SCHWEINZFEIER.

FROM WALWORTH COUNTY.

(The Aberdeen, S.D., "Star," 23rd September.)

EDITOR STAR,—Having been in South Dakota for six years, and in that time raising only one crop that paid expenses, I came to the conclusion that I must make a move or go to the wall. On looking over your valuable and outspoken paper, I saw several statements made and signed by ex-South Dakotans, who, after repeated failures, had removed to the Canadian North-West, where, according to their accounts, in my judgment the country is far ahead of South Dakota. Thinking their statements were painted in rather glowing colours, I decided on paying that country a visit and seeing for myself, so I called

on Mr. Webster, the emigration agent at Aberdeen, who very kindly gave me letters of introduction to the officials in Winnipeg, Manitoba. On my arrival in Winnipeg, a fine, substantially-built city of 28,000 inhabitants, I immediately called on A. F. Eden, Esq., land commissioner of the Manitoba and North Western Railway, who received me very kindly, and after presenting my letters of introduction I was given free transportation to the present terminus of their railway—270 miles and return. On leaving Winnipeg the train passes through a fine wheat-growing country. Whichever way I looked it was wheat—one continuous field of wheat for miles on both sides of the railway. After twelve hours on the train I arrived at the terminus of the M. & N. W. Ry. Going next day on foot, about six miles out I met with a man from Edmunds county, S. D., who hitched up and took me to the South Dakota settlement, where I found a country of timber forever, hay and water in abundance, and a good black soil, fifteen to eighteen inches deep, with a clay subsoil, which can be broken by two light horses, and the soil is moist enough to break any time.

The fire went through the country last spring, and the young timber which have sprung up since reached up to my hips. What a contrast to the trouble and expense and failures trying to grow trees in Dakota. I saw wild gooseberries, strawberries and raspberries. I had the pleasure of picking off the trees and eating. We had frost in South Dakota two weeks before, and I was surprised to learn that there had been no frost out there, and to prove it I brought home a tomato plant, which every one knows is very sensitive, that shows not the least sign of having been affected. I also brought home a fine sample of wheat, oats and potatoes, the wheat and oats standing in the field up to my shoulders. They don't know what headers are in that country. I visited some of the older settlers in the vicinity of Yorkton, and I enquire from them the prices they got for cattle. Mr. Fernie sold 3-year-old steers for \$55; Mr. Reed sold 2-year-old steers for \$90. (Last spring I was offered, in Walworth county, S. D., \$13 per head for good cows.) Mr. Fernie's wheat last year went thirty-five bushels, oats sixty bushels. Mr. Peter Wunder has a lake on his farm of nice, clear water, not a reed or a rush near it, and nice gravel bottom. Going out on the ice last winter the bottom could not be found with a 30 foot pole. I met with a young man out there who had just arrived from Portland, Oregon, and he said that part of the Canadian North-West was just like Oregon, only land in Oregon was \$200 per acre, and it had to be cleared of stumps, but there land was free. He was so charmed with

the country that he telegraphed to Edmunds county, S.D., for his father and brothers to come right away. He has chosen a section and a-half for them and himself. I myself have not seen such a nice country since I left England, twenty years ago. I am so well pleased with it and have so much confidence in the country that I have taken a half section for my son, who is 18 years old, and myself. Any citizen of Walworth county desiring information and will call on me, section 35, township 124, range 76, I will willingly give it.

I was near forgetting to say that the wind does not prevent putting up hay, as there is very little. They sow two bushels of wheat to the acre, and three bushels of oats, so people who have lived in Wisconsin will know what the country is like.

WM. DRAYTON.

Bangor, Walworth Co., S.D.

WHAT A WELL-KNOWN BROWN COUNTY FARMER SAW.

18th September, 1891.

To my Friends and Neighbours in Brown County, South Dakota :

On the 5th of September I left Aberdeen for the purpose of examining the agricultural resources of the Canadian North-West ; next day I arrived in Winnipeg, a beautiful city containing magnificent public buildings and elegant stores.

On the Winnipeg market I saw roots and vegetables that cannot be surpassed in any county. I procured through A. F. Eden, land commissioner, free transportation to Yorkton, the present terminus of the railroad.

From Yorkton, we drove 45 miles to Lake Sheho, where the South Dakota colony is located. I examined this district carefully, and pronounce it a first-class section for mixed farming and especially for stock-raising. There is wood and water, hay and grass in abundance.

The settlers are all highly pleased with their new homes. The colonists told me they would not return if made a present of their farms free of mortgages.

Returning, we stopped off at Nepawa, a nice town, and examined the country north to the Riding Mountains. This place is a stock-man's paradise.

In conclusion, I tell my friends I found the country better than the agents at Aberdeen represented it to me, and as soon as I can complete arrangements, I am going to settle in that country.

I am, yours truly,

J. R. WILLIAMS.

Ordway, S.D.

A FAULK COUNTY OPINION.

GENTLEMEN, Having heard a great deal in regard to the North-West represented by you, and having lived for the past nine years in Faulk county, South Dakota, I decided to go to that country and investigate it, with a view to settle there if suited, and to give the benefit of my investigations to my neighbours, who, with me, have lost their labour in trying to raise crops in this State.

The following is the result, which can be relied on, and is true in every particular:

I left Aberdeen on the morning of the 10th of September, arriving in Winnipeg on the 11th, where I stayed over a few hours to see that magnificent city of 25,000 people, and arrived at Yorkton, the present terminus of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway on Saturday night.

At this point I got a team, and drove out to the Dakota colony, a distance of 40 miles, through a first-class country for mixed farming, and got there on Sunday evening.

Here I found a settlement of some 200 people, all from the vicinity of Aberdeen: they left there on the 24th of April last and are now settled in vicinity of "Sheho Lake," having each more or less acres in crop on sod broken this spring, with a good prospect of 40 to 60 of oats to the acre, 300 to 400 bushels of potatoes and turnips, which will go 30 tons to the acre.

I found the settlers all prosperous, every one having a good log house and outbuildings, plenty of hay, which runs on the prairie one and a-half to two tons per acre, and in the natural meadows three to four tons, and all got from their own land or immediate vicinity.

I spent four days in settlement and looked over the eight townships set apart for the South Dakota colony. And without exaggeration, I must say I saw the best tract of land for mixed farming I have ever seen since I left the State of New York.

Every quarter contains from ten to twenty-five acres of young timber, from five to fifteen acres of natural hay meadow, first-class water in abundance, either from lakes or spring creeks, or by digging from 10

to 30 feet, and the soil is rich beyond belief, having an average depth of 14 to 20 inches of rich black loam on a clay subsoil.

I brought some potatoes with me which were planted by chopping a hole in the soil in the last week of May, and which will weigh over two pounds each.

I saw the finest vegetables I ever saw in my life. Corn, tomatoes, turnips, celery, pease, cabbage, and in fact all kinds of garden stuff, are simply wonderful. They must be seen to be properly appreciated.

Cattle bring big prices as compared to what they fetch here. I saw 3-year-old steers and heifers which sold for four and four and a-half cents per pound on the hoof, and weighed from twelve to fifteen hundred pounds each. Good cows are worth forty to fifty dollars each, and hogs are worth six to seven cents a pound. Horses weighing thirteen to fourteen hundred pounds each are worth \$250 if sound and not over eight years old.

In conclusion, having been delegated by my neighbours to see the Canadian North-West, and report things as I saw them, I shall close this by saying I have no intention of booming the country. I do not intend to convey the impression that a man can go there and live on the best without work.

I am free to state that the country has the drawbacks incidental to every new country. I know that if a man does not get his grain sown until the 1st of June (and there are many there who do not) he may expect frozen grain. But this I do state without fear of contradiction, that a man can go to that country with a good team either oxen or horses, five or six cows and a few head of young stock, and with good health, and he can be a rich man within the next ten years.

This may seem like a big statement, but so far from exaggerating I have not told them half of what I saw. It is truly a wonderful country, and when the railroad is completed next year, I do not believe a section of Government land can be obtained within 20 miles of the road.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours very truly,

B. F. HORTON.

The following is a copy of the testimonial signed by a number of former residents of the State of South Dakota, who, having been unsuccessful there, recently left it for the North-West Territories of Canada.

Most of them were originally from Elgin County, Ontario, and the remainder are Americans.

YORKTON, N.W.T., 12th May, 1891.

We, the undersigned, formerly residents of the State of South Dakota, and now located in Townships 30 and 31, Ranges 9, 10, 11 and 12, west of the 2nd Principal Meridian, being what is known as the Touchwood district, hereby certify that the representations made by Agents W. A. Webster, Alfred F. Holmes and E. E. Pettit, have been carried out in every particular.

That we find the land and location to be better than represented, in that there is more timber, better water and finer soil.

And we desire that this testimonial may be printed and circulated among our former neighbours in Brown, Macpherson, Edmunds and Marshall counties, in South Dakota, and we confidently recommend that they can have the utmost confidence in the representations made to them by Agents Webster, Holmes and Pettit, as we have found them more than borne out by the facts in every particular.

Taxes are only for school purposes, and do not exceed four dollars per quarter-section, and money can be had at 8 per cent per annum.

ISAAC SMITH,	WM. CONN.
HERBERT M. CHUTE.	ALBERT CONN.
SIR J. F. ODELL,	MRS. CONN.
A. L. CHUTE,	H. W. LEAVITT.
EDWARD E. CHAPMAN,	FRANK LEAVITT.
R. McCONNELL,	JOHN BEATTIE,
JOHN MARSDIN,	A. HAER,
C. S. VAN DYKE,	JAHAN HANSEN.
G. B. YOUNG,	LEVI WYCKOFF,
JAMES SCHRAM,	HANS C. OLSEN,
F. J. PRICE,	W. G. KITTEL,
H. WOODWORTH,	J. E. RANDERKNECHT,
H. W. WOODWORTH,	FRED SUNDERMAN,
S. H. ESELRINE,	P. WUNDER.
RODNEY BUTTON,	S. WUNDER.
GEORGE HAWK,	ULYSSES HAER,
ALBERT HAWK,	ANDREW HAER,
W. HAWK,	HEINRICH BITZ.

Representing over forty families.

YORKTON, 7th July, 1891.

We, the undersigned from South Dakota, wish to testify, after examining the land in the North-West Territories, that the Touchwood district, in the vicinity of Shecho Lake, is in our opinion a most desirable locality for intending settlers. The soil is of a rich black loam, and abundance of hay, with timber for building, fencing and fuel. Plenty of water from numerous lakes and creeks. We also find it to be a splendid country for mixed farming and stock-raising.

We find the people from South Dakota well satisfied and all doing well.

(Signed)

CHAS. H. KINNA,
GEORGE ROBINSON,
JAMES GRANDIN,
JESSA AKESS,
ROBERT STEEN.

(Extract from Chicago "Times," 3rd January, 1892.)

We produce the following from the Chicago "Times" of 3rd January, 1892, which will be of value to the reader, emanating from so reliable an authority:

"Notwithstanding his proverbial shrewdness, the average American is at fault when dealing with the resources and territorial extent of central Canada. The great majority of writers and speakers in the United States are prone to consider the arable portion of the territory a mere strip running along the international boundary line. Why this is it is hard to say, but partially probably because of the recent entrance, so to speak, of these districts into the society of civilized communities. As is well known, the Canadian Pacific road was not completed till 1885; hence the greater part of this wide region was not thoroughly accessible to explorers and settlers until that time. In view, then, of this prevailing ignorance, it may be interesting to cite a few facts regarding the area and natural resources of this north-western portion of the continent.

"A line running 1,000 miles from north to south, and another of equal length from east to west, does not reach the borders of this rolling, park-like plain, whose uniform adaptability to agriculture and stock-raising is now verified by experience. But we will not in this article go behind the points reached by that great western pioneer—the railway train, and accordingly fully accessible to settlers. The district thus equipped embraces an area of nearly 500,000 square miles. What

this area means is made plain by the statement that out of it might be carved no less than eight States, each the size of Illinois, and then a good slice to spare.

"The continent can not produce a soil superior in fertility to the rich black loam soil of Manitoba (area, 123,200 square miles), and, with local exceptions, such as morass or a belt of hills, the same applies to the whole territory above designated. The yield of wheat per acre has run from twenty to forty and forty-five bushels, of the world-famous "Manitoba hard" wheat, while the harvest of the present year may be described as the crowning effort of a record-breaking soil, fifty to sixty bushels to the acre being recorded in many cases. This wondrous fertility, coupled with the vast extent of territory equally adapted to wheat-raising, warrants authorities on wheat culture in prophesying that inside of fifty years central Canada will be the world's bread-maker.

"It will readily be understood that a soil so fertile naturally produces grasses in great variety and unsurpassed in quantity and quality, insuring an ever-plentiful supply of fodder for domestic cattle. This never-failing supply of nutritious grass, the plentiful supply of pure, running water, the sheltering bluffs of timber, as well as immunity from cyclones in summer and snowstorms in winter, combine the properties which make Alberta one of the finest ranching district on the continent. Stock-raising is carried on with equal success in the other provinces, and Manitoba beef and dairy products have already an enviable reputation on the European market."

SUCCESSFUL FARMING.

(*Extract from Aberdeen "Star."*)

BERESFORD, MANITOBA, 3rd October, 1891.

SIR,—I came to Manitoba in June, 1881, from Brussels, Ontario, where I had been for some time engaged as a merchant. Having taken a car of horses in payment of accounts due, I brought them up for the purpose of selling to better advantage than I could in the east, which I did. I took a great fancy to the country, went back and settled up my affairs and returned to Manitoba in December.

I purchased six sections of land from the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and would have bought more but they declined to sell, not feeling satisfied that I could cultivate them. In February, 1882, I also took up a homestead, the E. $\frac{1}{2}$ 32, 8.20 west, adjoining C. P. R.

land. I broke up 160 acres in 1882 and 640 acres the following year, and continued to break from year to year, and have brought under cultivation myself over 2,000 acres of land. I have as a rule had excellent crops. In 1884 and 1885 my grain was somewhat damaged by frost, but as I had gone extensively into cattle raising it proved no great loss, as I fed the damaged grain to my stock and realized a handsome price for my beef.

My 1887 crop was probably the heaviest I have had, but I made more money out of that of 1888, for I had a good return, about 25 bushels of wheat to the acre, and I sold it at \$1.05 per bushel. I expect to have this year nearly as good a yield as in 1887 and a much larger quantity of grain, as I had a greater area under crop. My wheat is of excellent quality, as is all the wheat in this neighbourhood. I have employed men from time to time in Ontario to work on my farms here, and after they have been engaged for a time on wages, I have sold a number of them small farms, and have given others land on shares; and they are all, without exception, prospering, and are pleased that they came to Manitoba, as they have bettered their circumstances very much.

I have now about 100 head of pure-bred Shorthorn and Hereford cattle, ranging in value from \$100 to \$300 each, 52 head of horses, including 14 pure-bred Clydesdales, a number of them imported from Scotland. The Clydesdales are worth from \$600 to \$2,000 each. I invested in my operations in this country about \$20,000, and would not to-day take \$100,000 for my lands, stock and farming effects, the direct result of my farming business in Manitoba. I attribute my success to mixed farming and making use of everything I raise. I never burn my straw, as many farmers do, but feed it to my cattle and draw all the manure each year upon my summer fallow. It would not pay me to sell my straw this year for \$1,000.

I am satisfied that I have done better here than I could have done in any other country.

Yours truly,

JOHN E. SMITH.

A. J. ALLEN.

THE MODEL FARMER OF BROWN COUNTY WRITES UP THE WINNIPEG FAIR.

EDITOR STAR,—Here I am in Winnipeg, the capital city of Manitoba and commercial headquarters for the vast territory of central and western Canada. As others before me, I had pictured in my mind a city somewhere about the size of Aberdeen. Imagine, therefore, if you

can, my surprise at finding it a city of some 30,000 inhabitants, nicely housed as a whole, and containing a number of structures such as would be an ornament and popular pride in a city of ten times its present population. The streets are wide, many of them paved, and all lit at night with electric lights. It is a city of push and prosperity. The citizens are full of energy and enterprise, and have unlimited faith in their city's future—and so have I, after inspecting it. Had I the capital to spare, here is where I would invest. So much for Winnipeg.

The fair (known as the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition) is now in progress, and it is worth visiting. The fair grounds are some 80 acres in extent, conveniently situated in the north-western part of the city and a block or two off the Canadian Pacific main lines. The grounds are laid out in an ideal manner for exhibition purposes, everything needful being provided. The buildings are first-class, and so planned as to admit of extension at will in any desired direction.

Leaving the main building, with its diversified exhibits, the buildings having the greatest attraction for me and my Dakota friends attending were the agricultural and the halls, and the different stocksheds.

The stock shown is magnificent—as good as the world has got, and speaks volumes for the stock-raising capabilities of the country. Among the horses exhibited are scores of thoroughbreds, Clydesdales, Shires, Percherons, Canadian draughts, etc. Among the breeds of cattle exhibited may be mentioned Durhams, Polled Angus, Galloways, Herefords, Holsteins, Jerseys and Guernseys, Ayrshires, West Highlands, etc. Among the sheep Cotswolds, Leicesters, Southdowns, Shropshire Downs, etc., etc., and all, without exception, are magnificent specimens of their class.

And what of the agricultural and horticultural exhibits? In one word, they are marvellous. It is not a frost-blighted or a heat-scorched wheat that meets the spectator's gaze in the agricultural hall. What he looks on is an endless variety of a round and plump golden-hued grain, the wheat-grower's pride, known as "Manitoba No. 1 hard." I never saw the equal of the samples shown, and they are neither few nor a small affair either. The same description can truthfully be applied to all other samples of grain shown. The fields roots and garden vegetables of all kinds shown in the horticultural hall are even more astonishing than the wheat and other grain. Their growth is such that were I to state their size and weight I would not be believed. Any one seeing this exhibit and noting the fact that they come from all parts of the vast territory west and north-west of here

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SMITH.

NIPEG FAIR.
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can come to but one conclusion - that this country can beat the world in farm produce, no matter of what kind.

One meets here with farmers from districts as far as 1,000 miles north-west of Winnipeg, and the exhibits mentioned, though for me an object of wonder, do not seem anything out of the ordinary to them. Many of them, as a matter of fact, will inform you that they can show a better sample at home than the one discussed. This proves that the aggregation of exhibits is not picked from a few favoured localities with a view of gulling the public.

I shall not speak of the manufactured wares, the implements, etc. I will simply say that farm implements of all kinds as shown are of a kind and quality very much the same as ours in Dakota.

One thing yet surprised me greatly, and that was to see so many honey bees buzzing about as I did, and right here I wish to say that the nicest honey in the comb I ever saw was shown me at this fair.

From what I have already seen, I fully believe this "land of frost," as we were taught to know this country, has no equal on the continent as a cereal producer. And while on the subject of frost it is not out of place to remark that I have so far seen very few traces of it here. A few of the tenderest vines and plants have been slightly touched, but many and extensive flower beds may be seen, apparently as healthy as ever, while the grass is green and fresh on every side. Cabbage, cauliflower, celery, lettuce, etc., are plentiful everywhere, another thing I did not expect at this season of the year.

This is but a mere outline, and incomplete one at that, of what I would say of what I have seen. But I have not the time necessary to do the subject justice, nor space enough at my command in your valuable journal. I will then close by saying that if all the exhibits at the fair are considered insufficient proof of the country's worth, the farmers attending it furnish the balance required to convince the most sceptical. They are certainly well clad, and, if appearances go for anything, well fed, and well supplied with the ever-needful dollar, a combination of conditions unattainable in a worthless country, as many of your readers can testify.

I meet here every day man after man from Dakota, and all looking for a new home.

I am leaving for the west to-day to examine not only the products of the soil, but also and more particularly the soil itself. You may hear from me again, ere long.

WINNIPEG, 1st October, 1891.

A. J. ALLEN.

Mr. Allen is the largest and most successful farmer in South Dakota, and was sent by the editor of the *Star* for the purpose of writing a truthful account of the fair.

WINNIPEG, 5th January, 1892.

Last year I left Toronto for Manitoba for a trip, merely to see the country, and after driving for six days over the different townships I came to the conclusion that this was the coming country and the place for any man wanting to get along by work and industry. My business in Toronto for the past five years has been exporting cattle to Europe, but I may tell you, after looking carefully into this country for its adaptability for the stock business, I have concluded to settle here and make it my future home. The farmers I met in my travels were all satisfied with the country, and would not return to where they left at all. I am here now purposely to see what it is like in winter, and I may tell you I am more than delighted with it. So far as the cold scare is concerned, it is very much exaggerated in Ontario.

Yours respectfully,

H. A. MULLINS.

17 Stafford St., Toronto.

WINNIPEG, 5th January, 1892.

I have been in Manitoba for the past ten years. I came from Owen Sound, county Grey, and settled at Minnedosa, the Garden of Eden. When I came here I put in 100 acres of crop on a piece of land I rented, and got 40 bushels of wheat to the acre. I did not know whether I would like the country when I came here first. I was so well pleased that the second year I purchased, and I now own 1,800 acres. The year before last I had 15,000 bushels of grain, and this year 12,000 bushels of grain. I have also on hand from 50 to 80 head of cattle and a number of sheep—140 head—and 20 horses, and I think any industrious man can get along and prosper here. I have known men come into our vicinity without a dollar and are well off to-day, and as for our winter weather here it is delightful, and far ahead of Ontario winter weather. I have never seen any blizzard, so commonly spoken of in Ontario, since I have been here in the country.

Yours respectfully,

R. P. FRASER,

Minnedosa

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS BY HON. C. H. HARRISON,
EX-MAYOR OF CHICAGO, TO THE CHICAGO MAIL.

"Manitoba is a grand province. From the boundary, stretching north about 150 miles by 120 miles east and west, it is a splendid small-grain country. The land is not held by great individual owners or by syndicates, but in small holdings, rarely larger than a section, and generally not larger than a half. The farms are much better cultivated than in Minnesota. The fields are much freer from weeds and the crops better than anything I saw in the States, except a small section near Crookston. I was told the expectation was an average crop of 25 bushels to the acre. Some fields, I thought in passing, would nearly touch 40 bushels. At Winnipeg we boarded the Canadian Pacific. For a considerable distance the country is perfectly flat, but the soil of great depth; ditches will make it all finely arable. From Portage la Prairie west, the surface of the prairie is undulating, often high-rolling, and on to Virden, 109 miles, is as beautiful prairie as one could wish to see. North and south in this belt the same characteristics, I was told by a well-informed gentleman, extended from the United States line to the northern limits of the province.

"What cunning chaps the Hudson Bay company people were! For long years they told the world that this was a region only fit for fur-bearing animals. And now that the iron horse has snatched the reins from this great cormorant, we find in this great North-West a country capable of supporting millions of happy agricultural people. Rivers abound, running in deep-cut banks, into which the lowest and flattest land can be drained. Wood is not so far off that it cannot be had in sufficient quantities for domestic purposes, and coal fields lie so close to the water courses that it can be transported by water if the rail fails to do the work. In the summer season the sun pours down a flood of heat. My alpaca coat was quite sufficient when standing on the platform, and from 10 to 5 I was constantly tempted to unbutton my vest. The nights are cool now, and, we are told, are always so. The people are thriving, and the Canadian Pacific Company has built a road with which none of our transcontinental railroads can compare. It is thoroughly laid, smooth, and finely ballasted. The depots or stations are built with taste, and the bridges are erected with great strength. In the far west, experimental farms are worked so as to give the emigrant actual knowledge of what the soil is capable of producing.

"Cattle ranches are scattered over the country. After leaving the wheat land, near Virden, I saw far off on the prairie a lady galloping

with long skirt on a horse with banged tail. Habitations became scarce and ranches few. Many lakes were passed, covered with geese and duck. Sometimes we could see young broods of the latter, about the size of partridges, on small streams not over 20 feet from our train. The plain is now the Coteau de Missouri, but is not arid, as the same plain is on the Northern Pacific road. The whole country is pleasantly green, with patches of town diversifying the landscape.

"At Medicine Hat, 660 miles west of Winnipeg, we crossed the south fork of the Saskatchewan River. Here, and for a long distance, it is a navigable, fine stream, some 400 yards wide. Above this place some 50 to a 100 miles are fine coal fields. The coal looked very pure, and one look assured me it was the best cooking coal in America. Before night we should have seen the Rockies, but did not, because of the smoky atmosphere. Sixty miles from their foot lies Calgary, a town of 2,000 people, the centre of the great ranche district, where ranches of many thousand horses abound. The grazing country is said to be very fine, and extends far south down into Montana. The plains here are very fine and the bunch grass is pretty green. It grows good wheat but better grass."

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER BY UNITED STATES CONSUL TAYLOR AT WINNIPEG.

To many of the farmers living in the western and middle States, the severe climate of the North-West, the "cold winters," is a serious question. They cannot understand how a country so far north as they seem to think it is can be suitable for mixed farming, wheat-growing or stock-raising. The reports given in this pamphlet of those who have visited the country will doubtless satisfy most persons on this point, but should there still be any doubt in the mind of any as to this question, we would refer them to an able and exhaustive letter from the gifted pen of no less an authority than the United States consul at Winnipeg, the Hon. James W. Taylor, which was published in the *New York Sun* in May or June of last year. In this article the esteemed consul goes to prove that in this great northern and western country not only is there millions of acres of rich arable land, but that because of its northern latitude it is more especially adapted to wheat-raising than the more southerly situated lands.

Space will not permit a full publication of the Hon. Consul Taylor's letter, but we give below a few extracts from it, which perhaps will be of value to the reader.

The consul opens his letter with the following significant paragraph:—

“The area of the wheat district of Central Canada, between Hudson’s Bay and Lake Superior for its eastern and the Rocky Mountains for its western boundary, and latitudes 50° to 60° , has been ascertained to be of uniform productiveness; and by no means a narrow selvage beyond the international boundary, as intimated by Mr. C. Wood Davis in a recent contribution to the *Arena*. The summary of this grand parallelogram of cereal growth and maturity is a series of facts and inferences which is the result of considerable experience and observation as a United States consul at Winnipeg. Let us first consider the broader area of north-west America extended beyond the prairie division to the Arctic and Pacific oceans, and trace on the map of North America the area enclosed between longitudes 100° and 170° west of Greenwich and latitudes 50° to 70° —a fourth of the continent—embracing the Canadian provinces, present and prospective, of Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Keewatin, Mackenzie, Athabasca, Alberta and British Columbia, and the American territory and future State of Alaska. How little conception have we from present developments of what the twentieth century will witness over this vast realm of nature. It will assist our prophetic vision to compare an equal area on the map of Europe identical in climate and other natural manifestations. Trace 70° of longitude— 60° east and 10° west of Greenwich—and from latitude 50° to 70° , and mark the relations of man to earth. The European parallelogram includes England, Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Holland, and most of Germany and Russia in Europe, represented by the cities of London, Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Berlin, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Nijni-Novgorod and Archangel.”

And then, after citing a large number of important facts, and giving the experience of the highest authorities in the country as to the fertility of the soil, the nutritiousness of its grasses, its pre-eminent adaptability to wheat-raising, the consul gives the opinion of the late Dr. Samuel Fory, a writer of eminence in the American “*Journal of Geology*,” as follows:

“He states as a universal fact that the cultivated plants yield the greatest product near the northernmost limit at which they will grow. His illustrations embrace nearly every plant known to commerce and used either for food or clothing. Cotton, a tropical plant, yields the best staple in the temperate latitudes. Flax and hemp are cultivated through a great extent of latitude, but the lint in southern latitudes,

forced into premature maturity, acquires neither consistency or tenacity, and we must go to the north in Europe to find these plants in perfection. Rice is tropical, yet Carolina and Florida grow the finest in the world. Indian corn is a sub-tropical plant, but it produces the heaviest crops near the northernmost limits of its range. In the West Indies it rises 30 feet, but produces only a few grains on the bottom of a spongy cob, and is regarded only as a cough provender for cattle. In the rich lands of the middle States it will often produce 50 to 60 bushels to the acre, but in New York and in New England agricultural societies have actually awarded premiums for 125 bushels to the acre. Wheat is a more certain crop in New York, in northern parts of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and the Baltic districts of Europe, than in the south, either of Europe or America. In the spring it is not forced too rapidly into head before it has time to mature fully or concoct its farina. Oats grow in almost every country, but it is in northern regions only, or very moist or elevated tracts, that they fill with farina suitable for human sustenance. Rye, barley, buckwheat, millet, and other culmiferous plants might be adduced to illustrate the above principle, for all their habits require a more northern latitude than is necessary to their mere growth. The grasses are in perfection only in northern or cool regions, although they will grow anywhere. It is in the north alone that we raise animals from meadows, and are enabled to keep them fat and in good condition from hay and grass without grain. It is there the grasses acquire succulence and consistency enough, not only to mature animals, but to make the richest butter and cheese. The tuberoses, bulbous and other roots cultivated for human and animal subsistence are similarly affected by climate, and manifest habits in corroboration of the above principle. The Irish potato, although from or near the tropics, will not come to perfection but in northern or cool countries, or in moist insular situations, as in Ireland. It is in such climates only that its roots acquire a farinaceous consistence and have size, flavour and nutriment enough to support animal life in the eminent way in which they are susceptible. In the south a forcing sun brings the potato to fructification before the roots have had time to attain their proper qualifications for nourishment.

"So for the suggestive illustrations of Dr. Forry, but I will venture to add a further instance from the central wheat district of North America. At its southern margin in Minnesota and Iowa seldom more than two well-formed grains are found in each cluster or fascicle

forming the row ; in northern Minnesota, Dakota and Manitoba three grains become habitual ; and from heads of wheat brought to me from Prince Albert, on the Saskatchewan, and Fort Vermilion, on the Peace River, I have separated five well-formed grains from each cluster or group forming the head, which is decisive evidence that the perfection of the wheat plant is attained near the most northern limit of its successful growth."

MR. T. W. CHILD, OF MELLETTE, SPINK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, TALKS.

Editor of TRIBUNE.—Permit me through the columns of the best paper in Spink county to tell your readers a few facts learned by a trip in the north.

Winnipeg was a big surprise to us. Nearly 400 miles north of Mellette (and Mellette is a trifle further north than Ottawa or Montreal), on the 50th parallel of latitude, in a region supposed by most Americans to be too cold for anything but Esquimaux, reindeer and white bear, we found a city of 30,000 people, built mainly of brick and stone, the principal street two and a-half miles long and 200 feet wide, electric cars, beautiful parks and groves, both public and private : streets paved with plank, stone and macadam. The city buildings are elegant, and the market, an institution wanting in so many American towns, not only large but a model of arrangement.

Residence of three years secures patent on Government land, (naturalization is not necessary) and railroad lands are sold at \$5 per acre, one-tenth cash, the balance on long time at 6 per cent. The railroad lands comprise every alternate section, the Hudson Bay Company lands one-twentieth of the land in every township and the school lands one-eighteenth.

Returning to Yorkton Saturday, we remained there till Monday. Here are a few market quotations : McCormick binders, \$200 on time ; a Canadian binder, which looked to us as good, \$150. Groceries about the same as at Mellette, but the Government effectually prevents adulteration of goods, wet or dry. All kinds of woollen goods at about one-half of our prices, and cotton goods a little higher. Spruce timber, \$16. A good yoke of oxen, \$150 ; cows, \$40 to \$60 ; farm waggon, \$65 to \$75.

Around Portage la Prairie last year wheat averaged 30 bushels, oats 50 bushels, barley 40 to 60 bushels ; 15 bushels is the lowest average ever known in the country. Grass now stands in many places

3 feet high. Instead of temporary shanties we here saw fine farm buildings; the people were well clad, with good clothes and an air of prosperity, and confirmed the extraordinary claims as to crop yield in times past and present. In fact, every kind of business seemed prosperous—with one marked exception. We looked in vain for the little offices with the shingle, "Money to Loan," "Farm Loans," "Money on Chattels," "Loan and Trust Company," &c. Real banks do a legitimate business. Money is worth 6 to 7 per cent.

Mr. Hamilton, land commissioner of the Canadian Pacific Railway, showed us many courtesies, which we wish to acknowledge. By that line we went to Brandon, a town of 4,000 inhabitants, large wholesale trade, flouring and lumber mills running night and day. Tuesday morning we drove to the Government Experimental Farm, where our surprise was continued. We saw wheat 46 inches high, with heads in proportion just forming. Besides many varieties of wheat, oats, barley and rye, we saw vegetables of all kinds that are grown in the temperate zone. The farm is about 700 acres, and the outlay is put into crops on the ground, and not into fancy architecture and a fine haired gentry. We also visited the Sandison farm of 2,000 acres, and were informed upon reliable authority that Mr. Sandison came to Brandon eight years ago a poor boy, that he followed no business other than farming, and is now worth \$100,000. Our best judgment places the yield of wheat on his farm at from 30 to 40 bushels.

Thursday we started for home, highly pleased with all we saw, having found all and more than there had been claimed by immigration agents. As to taxes, there is no tax on personal property. The only tax possible is limited to \$4 per quarter section, and that for school purposes solely.

The Province of Manitoba has a population of about 150,000, and reported last year 17,000,000 bushels of wheat. The beef export is enormous, but the figures we did not get.

Mr. Eden, land commissioner of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, courteously furnished us valuable information, and on the 5th we went to Yorkton, the terminus in Assiniboia. Though new, the roadbed is smooth and the rolling stock excellent. From Winnipeg to Portage la Prairie is a continuation of bountiful crops and countless herds. The sanguine estimate the crop at 30 to 40 bushels. Land rents at \$5 cash and sells at \$30 to \$40. North-west of Portage la Prairie the landscape is more varied, with timber and prairie inter-

spersed. We reached Yorkton at 11 p. m., and next morning started by train for the "Dakota Settlement," 45 miles north-west of Yorkton, on the survey of the line to Prince Albert. The company's charter compels it to build 40 miles of this road in 1892. The first 40 miles, though excellent soil, seemed best adapted to grazing. The region called the "Dakota Settlement" is most beautiful to the eye, prairie, timber, lakes and meadows intermingled. There is timber enough for building stables, fences, etc., for all time to come, to say nothing of fuel. Mr. Holmes, the immigration agent at Aberdeen, had described to us his own quarter-section before we left home, and Mr. P. B. Cole recognized it at sight. We arrived at the hospitable home of Conn Brothers at 9:30 p.m., just at sunset. They migrated from Westport, Brown county, the past spring, and now have the timber all prepared for erecting a good log house. They are very enthusiastic, as was every Dakotian we met—every man having the "best quarter-section in the country." The Dominion Government pays a percentage of teachers' salaries according to grade of certificate, and supports the courts and police, and the latter are not the farce and sham with which we are too familiar. Special inquiry brought out the fact that around Yorkton last year the total tax was \$2.60 on a quarter section. It will never be higher until there is a sufficient population that believes in taxation as a source of wealth.

After two weeks of close personal observation I am satisfied that I have found the country that offers a refuge to the man who has, after years of courageous labour and struggle, found the odds against him too heavy. I would advise any man who finds himself impelled to leave Dakota to look at Assiniboia for a field of labour that will repay his toil.

At Winnipeg, Brandon and Yorkton the Government has provided buildings where immigrants upon arrival may not only lodge, but may temporarily set up housekeeping, rent free, thus avoiding the burdensome expense of hotel bills. The buildings are kept in good order, clean and wholesome.

T. W. CHILD.

ANOTHER MICHIGAN REPORT.

WINNIPEG, 10th February, 1892.

DEAR SIR,—Many of my friends and acquaintances asked me, when I was about to come out to see your country, to write a report as to how I found the climate in winter, how the farmers were getting along and what were the prospects for the future. Complying with this

request, I take this opportunity to write, as it may be a help to intending settlers.

I arrived in Winnipeg on the 3rd of January. Next morning I walked out through the town: it was 20 degrees below zero, but the sun was shining brightly and the day was pleasant. I found every article of farm produce on the market, viz: Pork, beef, wheat, oats, hay, wood, etc. As my business here was to look up a future home, I interviewed these farmers, and found by their own statement that they were all well satisfied, the crops were good, and they all claimed to me to have done well since they came here. After remaining here for three days I again proceeded on my journey westward, stopping off at Brandon. I again made for the elevators and farmers, for my determination was to get to the bottom of farming, as that is my calling. Here, as in Winnipeg, I found them more than satisfied with their lot. Some of their wheat here was frozen and shrunk, but they did not grumble, as their large yield was making up for all mishaps. I might say the weather was just as cold here as in Winnipeg. I had a great desire to learn of their blizzards, that we so often read about in the east. I made several enquiries, and here are two of the answers: "I can tell you I came here in 1878. The first year I built a wood pile from my house to my stables. I left it there three years, waiting for the storm, but finding it did not come, I used the wood, and I tell you, sir, that that storm has not come yet."

Second farmer's answer: - "I came here very poor, and had to cut and draw wood some 12 miles to town to support my family, and hearing so much about snow storms in Manitoba I carried an axe, matches and kindling wood for three years, but finding no storms to stop me and none that any man could not get through I carried my wood and matches no longer." Another farmer said: - "Friend, I tell you, you have made a mistake: the blizzards are over in Dakota: I lived there. I have been in the Brandon district for three years and have seen none of our wild Dakota storms here yet."

I might say while at Brandon I drove out in the country and visited the Experimental Farm. Here I found Mr. Bedford busy making out his annual report. Four farm neighbours, to whom I was introduced, came here, and these farmers declared to me the grand success that they have had in farming and the success of their neighbours.

These farmers came to the farm for the purpose of discussing experiments tried that year, which Mr. Bedford explained to their satisfaction. Here we visited the barn and stables, and saw horses, cattle and

grain, which were fully up to the standard. Two head of store cattle on cut straw and chop were gaining 100 pounds per month.

I also drove over the celebrated "Sandison Farm," and here I saw the heaviest wheat stubble I ever saw in any country. I left Brandon on the 12th, stopping off at Oak Lake, Virden, Moosomin and Regina, and I might say that during my stay over in Manitoba that I never came across as thrifty and happy a lot of farmers as here! I was raised in North Middlesex, and I have travelled through a great many of the States, viz., east to New York, west to Colorado and south to Tennessee, but the farmers here are the most satisfied and most thrifty of any I ever met. From Regina I went through to Calgary, arriving there on the morning of the 17th. Here they had about 3 inches of snow, but no sleighing, as in the eastern towns, where they had good sleighing. The weather was milder here and it commenced to storm that evening, snow and blow. I went out with a friend that evening in the storm, and I did not experience any inconvenience to travel. It continued to snow till noon next day: when the sun came out it was bright but cold. On the evening of the 19th one of their warm winds set in, and on the morning of the 20th there was no snow. This gave me a good chance to see the country at the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains. I then made a trip to Edmonton, stopping off at intermediate points to look over the country. Here as in Manitoba and Assiniboia there is some choice prairie dotted with timber for settlement, with an abundant supply of water and coal. On my return I visited Prince Albert, where I found another lot of prosperous and happy farmers. Prince Albert is 250 miles north of Regina, but I found it much milder at Prince Albert than at the latter town. This country is plentifully supplied with timber.

I might state, to show how enthusiastic the farmers are, that everyone thinks his farm just the garden spot: and from one end of the country to the other can be found the happiest and most prosperous farmers on the continent of America. The greatest fault that I have to find with the country is that it is so immensely large and so many choice locations to choose from that it will almost bewilder you. There are millions of acres of the choicest agricultural lands, free to home seekers, that is on the continent of America, in western Canada. Here I have chosen my future home, and am now on my way east for my family, to return in the spring.

Yours truly,

WM. DAVIS,

Merrill, Saginaw Co., Michigan.

President J. J. Hill Talks.

MEMO. OF EVIDENCE given by Mr. James J. Hill, President of the Great Northern Railway of St. Paul, Minnesota, before a committee of the House of Commons of Canada in March, 1877. After discussing at great length the question of transportation and rates for the exportation of wheat to the seaboard and for the carrying of settlers from theseaboard into the North-West country, Mr. Hill proceeds to compare the Dakotas and Minnesota with the Canadian North-West. In answer to a question put by Mr. Bain, Mr. Hill said :

"Take at the present time the place where the Mennonites settled at New Odessa, in Dakota, just north of Yankton. They went up there at the same time that your Mennonites went to Manitoba. A number remained in the United States and settled in southern Dakota, and the place where they settled they called New Odessa. It was named by themselves. They paid 29 cents to carry their wheat to Duluth. That is the rate to Duluth from Yankton. That section of the country is being rapidly settled up, and it is a rich agricultural section : but they have not as good land, and they have not the same amount of good land that they have in the Province of Manitoba ; it is not as good. I have been over the country, and I am familiar with it ; I know both Manitoba and that country. They are also more liable in Dakota, being closer to the sage brush country, to visitations from locusts. This country is also more easily affected by drought than Manitoba, and by dry seasons : it is a prairie country, and the Province of Manitoba is pretty well watered.

" By Mr. Hagar :

"Q. And the soil is not equal to the soil on Red River?--A. No : you will not find it in any other place on the American continent as good as it is in Manitoba, unless it be in a little place on the Wabash, a short distance from Miami, nearly opposite St. Louis, called the Illinois bottom ; but anywhere else I have never seen any soil so rich as it is along the Red River.

" By the Chairman :

"Q. You have travelled very extensively? A. I have been in every State in the Union, I think, except in the Pacific States.

"And for a settler to make a comfortable home for himself, you

would prefer Manitoba to any other place? A. The soil in the Red River valley is, to my mind, the richest farming country that I have ever seen. It is not only rich, but it has also bright prospects."

After speaking at some length upon the superior quality of the flour made at the Minneapolis mills from the wheat grown in Minnesota and Dakota, Mr. Hill said: "The same statement applies to Manitoba, but only in a greater degree, because a superior quality of wheat is grown in Manitoba, it being further north. You have seen the samples, and you know if you have tried it in the hand, or between the teeth, that it is hard wheat: and Manitoba is a country which is peculiarly adapted to the growth of that quality. The quantity raised will not make any difference; the whole country might go to the growing of this wheat, and it would not even affect the price, because there is always a demand for good flour: and this is a locality that must raise it.

"Q. Do roots grow very successfully there, such as potatoes, turnips and beet, &c.? -A. I do not know that there is any country that will surpass Manitoba for the growth of roots of all kinds - potatoes, turnips and beets especially. I think that potatoes do better there than in any other place that I have ever seen."

CALGARY, 27th January, 1892.

My brother and I came from Peterboro', Ont., and settled in Alberta 20 miles south-east of Calgary in September, 1883 - we had only sufficient to bring us here - since which time we have been engaged in almost exclusive grain-raising, having no means to invest in stock, until lately. In 1884 we had no crop, except for potatoes; in 1885 we sowed 4 acres and raised 230 bushels; in 1886 we sowed 15 acres, weighing 40 pounds, and raised 1,000 bushels of oats; in 1887 we sowed 30 acres, weighing 42 pounds, and raised 2,500 bushels wheat; in 1888 we sowed 60 acres, raising 2,500 bushels of wheat; in 1889 we sowed 60 acres, raising 2,400 bushels of wheat; in 1890 we sowed 75 acres, and raised 3,500 bushels of wheat; in 1891 we sowed 110 acres, and raised 3,900 bushels of wheat.

Each year our wheat would grade No. 1 hard, and yielded per acre from 40 to 55 bushels. We have had better success in raising wheat than any other crop. Barley and oats have always done well with us. We have never had a failure in grain-raising. Our father joined us

in 1886, and we three now own 960 acres. We have 640 under wire fence. We own 35 head of horses and 12 head of cattle, 2 binders, and value our stock and implements at not less than \$3,000. We are entirely out of debt.

We are more than satisfied with Alberta, even to raise grain exclusively; but for stock it has no equal.

We teamed most of our oats last winter to Macleod, 80 miles away, and during December and January slept under our waggons and our horses pastured on grass.

(Signed) SHIELD BROS.

I came from the Province of Quebec with my family in 1882. When I landed at Emerson I had only 15 cents, and a small family of ten children.

I worked on the Canadian Pacific Railway, western division, during the construction of that road. I was so pleased with the Calgary section that I located there in 1886, since which time I have been engaged in mixed farming, keeping a dairy and raising grain. My yield of oats has been 51 bushels, weighing 49½ lbs; wheat 35 bushels, weighing 61½ lbs.

In 1890 I raised 2,000 bushels of grain; last year I was a sufferer by hail; notwithstanding which, I had a profitable crop of green feed.

As a family we own 980 acres of land, 640 of which is fenced and 120 acres under crop. We own 75 head of cattle and 10 horses—two teams of these horses are worth \$400 each—with all farm implements necessary to farm my land. I owe no man a cent.

When in Quebec I had hard work to make a living; but since my arrival in the North-West, and under great expense in raising such a large family, I have never known the want of money.

Since I have been on my farm I have on an average sold my butter for 25 cents per lb.; eggs, for 30 cents per dozen.

The winters are very mild indeed. So far, this winter, I have only fed my milk cows, and on an average have not fed my store stock over ½ ton of hay each, any winter.

For mixed farming, I know of no country where a farmer with small means can make so good a living, with only moderately hard work.

(Signed) MORRIS STEWART.

CALGARY, 27th January, 1892.

I came from Port Hope and settled on Sheep Creek, in Alberta, 20th July, 1883. When I landed all I had was \$70. I paid \$32 to have four acres broken. This I sowed in 1884, and threshed 225 bushels, part of my crop being spoiled.

In 1885, I sowed	14,	and threshed	500 bushels.
1886	do	22	do 1,500 do
1887	do	28	do 1,800 do
1888	do	40	do 2,000 do
1889	do	45	do 2,800 do
1890	do	100	do 2,000 (drought).
1891	do	200	do 7,065 bushels.

I own 960 acres of land, all of which is fenced. I own 76 head of cattle and 14 horses, 1 binder, 2 mowers, and implements needed for cultivation of my land, and work 5 teams. I estimate the value of my estate as follows :

960 acres fenced at \$10.....	\$9,600 00
76 cattle.....	2,000 00
14 horses.....	2,000 00
Implements.....	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$14,600 00

27th January, 1892.

(Signed) JOSEPH BRICE.

HINTS TO INTENDING SETTLERS.

Surely if any evidence is convincing, the foregoing must be ; and now, without comment we will give a few suggestions for the benefit of those who may desire to visit this country, either to make a personal examination of it themselves before finally deciding to settle, or who, being satisfied with the unimpeachable testimony of so many well-qualified parties, desire to come at once and settle :

1st. Read carefully the statements contained in this pamphlet and note what those have said who have visited the country.

2nd. Write to any of the addresses given below and ask for copies of other publications, among which are the following, viz. : Canadian Pacific Railway pamphlets for 1892, and accompanying maps, Manitoba Government maps and crop statistics ; North-West Territories official pamphlet, etc., etc. After reading these pamphlets, which contain full and reliable information upon the country, you will find that almost all questions affecting the country are fully and clearly answered.

If, however, there remain some points not made clear, a line to any of the addresses given will bring the necessary information.

3rd. Everything which a farmer has for his own use, and which he has had in use not less than six months prior to leaving for Canada, will be admitted *free of duty*. This applies to settlers' effects, household goods, farming utensils, etc., but it is not intended to permit any person to bring in goods for the purpose of selling them after arrival, nor is it intended to cover large herds of stock, which would be brought in either for the purpose of starting a ranche or for slaughtering, but it is intended to cover everything which the settler has had, and which he still requires for his own use.

All stock brought in must be examined by a veterinary inspector before crossing the lines, and his certificate of health obtained for the same. This is not a quarantine, but simply a veterinary inspection, and if the animals are all right they are permitted to enter at once.

4th. The "Canada Settlers Loan and Trust Company," of which Messrs. Allan, Brydges & Co. are the agents at Winnipeg, make small loans to the extent of from \$200 to \$400 or \$500 to parties in the United States and in the old country who desire it, and who wish to settle along the line of the Manitoba and North-Western Railway; and any person wishing to avail themselves of this privilege can get full particulars by writing the agents as above. This is a very desirable arrangement for those who, though good farmers, and thoroughly honest and upright, and with all the necessary implements and effects to enable them to make a good start, yet have not the means necessary to enable them to move. The company are very particular to whom they make advances, almost everything depending upon the personal good character and standing of the settler wishing the advances, and before making any calculations on this, or in any way depending upon the loan, it will be necessary in all cases to communicate with the company or its authorized agents. *Do not depend upon information received from any one but the company or its authorized agent.* The company's terms are very reasonable. The rate of interest is only 8 per cent per annum, and the settler is given three years before he has to pay anything back to the company, and the loan is made payable in fifteen years by instalments, with privileges of paying in full at any time.

5th. It is not necessary to become a Canadian citizen in order to homestead land, but in order to vote a person must become a citizen by naturalization if not already by birth.

6th. Any person the head of a family or any male eighteen years of age may homestead and obtain a patent after three years' residence and performing the homestead duties, and by paying \$10 entry fee. For full information see "Homestead Laws" and "Land Regulations" as published.

7th. Arrangements are made with the "Free Homestead Company" and the "Canada Settlers Homestead Company" for reduced rates to Winnipeg and other points to which settlers wish to go in the North-West. These rates will be available from Montreal, Brockville, Detroit, Chatham, Sault Ste. Marie, Emerson, Gretna, Boissevain, Deloraine, and other points along the international boundary line, where it is most convenient for settlers to cross.

8th. We are often asked the question, "What part of the country would you advise me to settle in?" This is a difficult question to answer, and one that can only be satisfactorily answered by the settler himself. So much depends upon the requirements of the settler, as to what kind of country he would like, whether he would like mixed farming, wheat farming, or stock-raising; whether he has a family and would like a district fairly well settled, with churches, schools, etc., or whether he would like to take up a free "homestead" or purchase railway or private lands. If you are in doubt on this point, the better way is not to decide until you reach Winnipeg, where you will soon be able, with the advice and assistance of the proper authorities, to make a choice, or where, if necessary, you can easily take a run out and see for yourself before deciding. All trains are met on arrival at Winnipeg by properly authorized officials, who will direct you to the proper parties for information. Ample accommodation is provided for all who wish to avail themselves of it, in the Dominion Government immigration hall, which is close beside the depot.

We give you all a hearty invitation to "come and see" for yourselves, and we will accord you a warm welcome upon your arrival.

For further information and particulars apply to the party whose name and address will be written or stamped on the face of this pamphlet, or to any of the Government land or immigration agents in Manitoba or the North-West; to the Department of Immigration of the Dominion Government, Ottawa, Ontario; to the land department of the Canadian Pacific and Manitoba and North-Western Railway companies, Winnipeg; or to the undersigned.

G. H. CAMPBELL,

Winnipeg, Man.

REGULATIONS FOR THE SALE OF LANDS

BELONGING TO THE

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

(These regulations are substituted for and cancel those hitherto in force.)

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company offer for sale some of the finest agricultural lands in Manitoba and the North-West. The lands belonging to the Company in each township within the railway belt, which extends twenty-four miles from each side of the main line, will be disposed of at prices ranging

FROM \$2.50 (10s.) PER ACRE UPWARDS,

TERMS OF PAYMENT.

If paid for in full at time of purchase, a deed of conveyance of the land will be given; but the purchaser may pay one-tenth in cash, and the balance in payments spread over nine years, with interest at 6 per cent per annum, payable at the end of the year with each instalment. Payments may be made in land grant bonds, which will be accepted at 10 per cent premium on their par value, with accrued interest. These bonds can be obtained on application at the Bank of Montreal or at any of its agencies in Canada or the United States.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

All sales are subject to the following general conditions:

1. All improvements placed upon lands purchased, to be maintained thereon until final payment has been made.

2. All taxes and assessments lawfully imposed upon the land or improvements to be paid by the purchaser.

3. The Company reserve from sale, under these regulations, all mineral and coal lands, and lands containing timber in quantities, stone, slate and marble quarries, lands with water power thereon, and tracts for town sites and railway purposes.

4. Mineral, coal and timber lands and quarries, and lands controlling water power, will be disposed of on very moderate terms to persons giving satisfactory evidence of their intention and ability to utilize the same.

Liberal rates for settlers and their effects will be granted by the Company over its railway.

The Canadian Government contemplates granting bonuses to *bona fide* settlers from Europe, on lands in the Province of Manitoba and Western Territories of Canada and British Columbia, and it is recommended that booking agents be asked for particulars in regard to this matter.

Detailed Prices of Lands and all information relating thereto can be obtained on application to the Land Commissioner,
Canadian Pacific Railway, Winnipeg.

DOMINION LANDS REGULATIONS.

HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

All even-numbered sections of agricultural land, excepting 8 and 26, are open for homestead entry, unless specially reserved for some other purpose.

ENTRY.

Entry may be made personally at the local land office in which the land to be taken is situate, or, if the homesteader desires, he may, on application to the Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, receive authority for some one near the local office to make the entry for him. The fee for entry is \$10.

DUTIES.

Under the present law, homestead duties may be performed in three ways:

1. Three years' cultivation and residence, during which period the settler may not be absent for more than six months in any one year without forfeiting the entry.

2. Residence for three years within two miles of the homestead quarter-section, the last three months of which residence must be in a habitable house erected upon such homestead. Ten acres must be broken the first year after entry, 15 acres additional in the second, and 15 acres in the third year: 10 acres to be in crop the second year, and 25 acres the third year.

3. A settler may reside anywhere for the first two years, in the first year breaking 5 acres, in the second year cropping said 5 acres, and breaking additional 10 acres, also building a habitable house. The entry is forfeited if residence is not commenced at the expiration of two years from date of entry. Thereafter the settler must reside upon and cultivate his homestead for at least six months in each year for three years.

APPLICATION FOR PATENT

may be made before the local agent or any homestead inspector.

Six months' notice must be given in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands by a settler of his intention, prior to making application for patent.

All communications having reference to lands under control of the Dominion Government, lying between the eastern boundary of Manitoba and the Pacific coast, should be addressed to

The Secretary of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, or the Commissioner of Dominion Lands, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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